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TRAVELS

THROUGH

ENGLAND, WALES, & SCOTLAND,

IN THE YEAR 1816.

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BY DR. S. H. SPIKER,

LIBRARIAN TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF PRUSSIA.

DEDICATED TO THE FRIENDS OF ENGLAND.

Translated from the German.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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TRAVELS

THROUGH

ENGLAND, WALES, AND SCOTLAND.

CHAP. I.

Entrance into Cheshire—Chester—The Cathedral—The Grave of the Emperor, Henry IV.—The Chapter House—The City Walls—The four Gates—The Prison—Its interior arrangements—The Castle—The Halls—Departure from Chester—Eaton Hall.

We had left Lancashire, and entered Cheshire, at Warrington. Our visit to Northwich obliged us to make a considerable circuit; and to reach Chester we were obliged to pass through eighteen miles of a flat unpleasant country, which only began to become somewhat more picturesque in the vicinity of that city.

It was late in the evening when we arrived, and we therefore could only dimly see the streets on

the way to our inn. We were the more surprised on sallying forth next morning to observe the very singular manner in which this town is built. Most of the houses in Chester are built of wood, and according to the old fashion, have pointed gables towards the streets; they are generally four stories in height, but the second story recedes so as to leave a space in front of it, forming a covered way or piazza, which extends through whole streets, all the houses being built in the same manner.

There are stairs here and there to descend to the street, and at all the places where one street is interrupted by another, and where we have hardly descended one stair when we mount another in order to continue our course. These *piazzas* are always appropriated for shops, the lower stories are occupied by petty dealers, coblers, &c., and the upper stories are used as dwelling houses. The picturesque effect which this mode of building would produce if the houses had been duly proportioned, is lost in consequence of the inequality of their height, for the piazzas are in some places so low, that any one may almost reach the roof with his hands.

The cathedral was the first remarkable object that attracted our attention. A splendid arched gate, within a large Gothic blind arch, leads into the abbey court, a beautiful square, surrounded on two sides with buildings, among which the episcopal palace, a neat modern edifice, with a well cul-

tivated flower garden in front, immediately arrests our attention. The centre is occupied by a pleasant grass-plat, with an obelisk. The cathedral from the lowness of its square towers, and the irregularity and intricacy of its plan, has by no means a striking appearance. It consists of two parts, viz. that called the Bishop's church, and the parish church of St. Oswald; the latter occupying the large northern cross aisle. The west end is built in the style of the fourteenth century, and ornamented with six large Gothic arches on each side. The choir appears to be of more ancient date, and is particularly remarkable for the stone pedestal on which the bishop's seat rests. The choir forms an oblong square, the sides of which are ornamented with carved pointed Gothic arches, and above them there is a row of figures in bas-relief, representing the Saints and Kings of Mercia;* which have suffered very much from time, and fanatical fury. Behind the choir is St. Mary's chapel, which in former times seems to have been used as a cemetry.

There are a great number of small niches in the walls, which were formerly perhaps fitted up as seats. Here there is a monument particularly interesting to a German, that of the German Emperor, Henry IV.; who after a long train of misfortunes, is said to have closed his life at Chester, and to have been interred

* Of the kingdoms of the Saxon heptarchy.

in this place.* The curiosity of visitants has removed a little one of the flat stones by which the grave is covered, so that we can plainly see the leaden coffin in it, and even touch it with the hand. The chapter-house, undoubtedly the most elegant part of the whole, is on the eastern side of the cloisters. The front hall forms a Gothic arch, supported by four pillars, which appear to have been improved in latter times. The chapter-house itself, a beautiful room, fifty feet in length and thirty-five feet in height, is lighted by a large arched window placed opposite to the entrance, occupying nearly the whole of the wall, and reaching to the roof, and by two other windows in the side walls of equal height, but narrower. In viewing this delightful room, we willingly forget the splendid chapter-houses of York and Salisbury. A small staircase in the wall leads to a kind of gallery, which is formed by high and slender pillars, at about a foot and a half distance from the wall, terminating in the ceiling. We are here shown a part of the coffin of Lupus the Great, first Earl of Chester, a nephew of William the Conqueror, who was a great

* I shall not attempt to inquire on what foundation this tradition rests, or who was actually buried here. According to the most authentic evidence, the Emperor, Henry IV., was buried at Spires by his son, Henry V. Henry III., or the Lion, Duke of Brunswick, son-in-law to King Henry II. of England, was several times in this kingdom, and visited it not long before his death, but he was buried in Brunswick.

benefactor to this abbey, and whose remains were accidentally discovered about the beginning of the last century, in consequence of some excavations. In the library, which is arranged in book-cases along the walls of the chapter-house, there is an inscription, said to have reference to a kind of Socratic society, instituted by him; but this does not appear to me to be clearly made out. The cloisters seem to be of old Saxon architecture.

I would advise every person who visits Chester, to take a walk as soon as possible on the city walls. Chester, like York, having formerly been strongly fortified, has also retained the greater part of its walls; and thus supplied the inhabitants with the means of viewing the surrounding country from the best stations. On the northern part we see beneath us the Ellismere Canal, which appears to have been cut with great labour through red coloured rocks, that rise high above it on both sides. Behind the buildings, timber-yards, &c. on its banks a wide plain stretches out, terminating in the Welch mountains, which we see involved in a blue vapour. The bastions projecting from the walls are surrounded on the inside with benches; and several towers, following in alternation with them, are more or less in a state of decay. The Phœnix Tower,* from which the unfortunate Charles I. beheld the defeat of his

* So called from its being distinguished by a phœnix cut in stone, which is still extant.

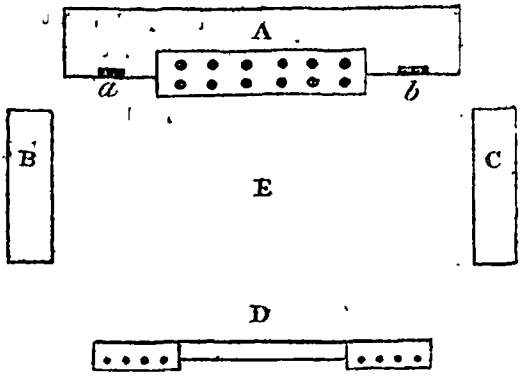
army at Ashton Moor, possesses particular interest in an historical point of view. The room from which Charles looked out was closed; but when standing on the open staircase leading to it from the walls we could clearly see into it. It has small Gothic windows on all sides, through which the country to a great distance all around can be plainly seen.

In the course of this walk we passed several public buildings, among which we were particularly gratified with the clean and airy appearance of the City Hospital. The City prison is built in a very peculiar style, somewhat approaching to the Egyptian.

Still continuing our way on the walls we come to the splendid prison for the county of Chester, which is acknowledged to be the first building of its kind in England; and of which I shall immediately proceed to give some details. Close to the prison on its right is the castle, with its redoubts rising in an amphitheatrical form. Passing by the back of it we came to some excellent gardens, of which the trees, richly laden with fruit, extend their branches nearly over the walls, and consequently into the city, and then proceeded over the eastern gate. All the gates (another rarity in England) consist merely of large connecting arches towards the ends of the streets, over which we pass on our walk along the walls, and which are on that account provided with an iron railing. They are four in number, namely, the eastern, northern, western, and bridge gates.

Not far from the eastern gate is the new St. John's church, so called to distinguish it from the adjoining ruins of the old, which however have a more modern appearance than the new church itself. The latter is built in the old Saxon style, and has this peculiarity, that instead of having as usual only one gallery over the lower row of strong pillars, this has two, above each other, which are connected by a staircase in the interior. The door leading to the Sacristy is one of the most beautiful monuments of Saxon architecture. Returning to the city (for this church is without the walls) we passed a school house built by Earl Grosvenor, in which there is a double entrance for boys and girls, a very excellent arrangement. The news'-room in Jackson's Royal Hotel, which is well supplied with newspapers, and open to every person, is well deserving of mention on account of its utility.

Before describing the prison, I must observe that it ought to be considered as forming one building with the castle. The barracks belonging to the castle and the arsenal, although separate from the prison, form the two side wings of the place in which the latter is built; whilst the fore part of it, the sessions' house, forms the principal front. The following hasty sketch will enable the reader to form some idea of it:

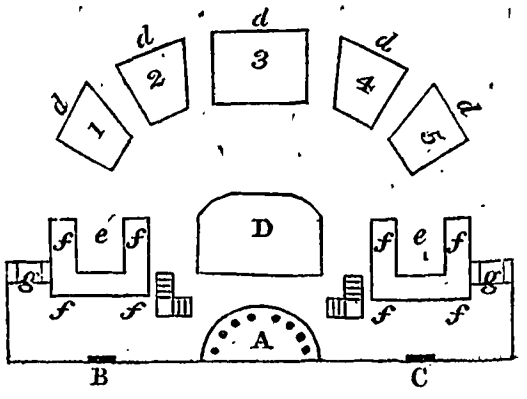


A, is the Sessions'-house, adorned with a portico, consisting of two rows of new Doric columns; *a*, the entrance to the prison, which is in the prolongation of the front in the rustic taste to the left; and *b*, the entrance to the judges' chambers, where they assemble during the assizes. B, the barracks for the garrison, and C, the arsenal opposite to them. These buildings resemble each other externally, and are two stories in height. D, is a temple entrance if I may use such an expression, evidently imitated from a part of the Propylea, which having a portico of four Doric columns on each side, leaves sufficient room in the centre to afford a view of the front of the Sessions'-house. E, is the large open place, which is surrounded by all these buildings. The whole would have produced an admirable effect, if this advancing

portico had not been formed on too diminutive a scale, and as it stands on the open plain, and at a distance from the side wings, it is almost unconnected with the other buildings.

Having entered the interior of the building, we first took a view of the court or Sessions'-house. Like all other criminal courts of modern date,* it forms a bow, the string of which is turned towards the portico, and from having eight well proportioned Ionic columns, it has a very fine appearance. Between the columns there are niches, of which two in particular, at the ends, are very large, wherein statues as large as life are to be placed. It receives its light from the glass cupola, with which it is covered. At the time we saw it the workmen were still employed in finishing the inside. From the court we proceeded to the inside of the prison. Its arrangement is truly admirable, and both novel and highly peculiar. The fine situation of the building, which is erected on the highest point of a considerable tract of country, contributed very essentially to heighten the impression of the whole. I must here again have recourse to a sketch, however imperfect, to give an idea of this building.

* See the account of Lancaster in vol. I.



A, is the court of justice; BC, the entrances marked in the preceeding sketch, of which B, as was stated, leads to the interior of the prison. The prison, properly so called, forms, as the reader sees, an octagon, and is divided into five wards or separate buildings, (d) in which the prisoners are confined. All these buildings are of three stories. The number of the windows varies; 2, 3, and 4, have seven windows each, whilst 1, and 5, have only four. The mode of distributing the prisoners in the wards according to their crimes, is as follows; No. 5, is appropriated to female debtors; No. 1, for male debtors, and No. 2, 3, and 4, are for criminals. D, is a building, the third and fourth stories of which contain the apartments of the superintendant; and from its being situated on the highest part of the hill, it rises at least twenty feet above the level of the roofs of the

wards. By this arrangement the superintendant is enabled to overlook all the prisons; and as their windows are only latticed with slender iron bars, he can see into the inmost part of each cell. A gallery which runs round his apartments enables him to obtain immediate information of every irregularity that occurs, without going down to the wards, and is likewise an excellent point of view for any person who wishes to obtain an idea of the arrangement of the whole prison. From this gallery we can see the prisoners sitting in their cells, or walking in the gardens before their wards (each of which is provided with a fountain, as at Lancaster), where they generally apply to visitors for some trifling gratuity. Opposite to each ward, in the windows of the turnkey's house, there is stuck up a written note, in which the number of prisoners in each ward are given according to the following classification: name, age, crime, punishment, mitigation, end of the period of punishment.

According to this note, No. 1, contained nine, No. 2, twelve, No. 3, ten, and No. 5, eight prisoners, in all fifty-six persons. Exclusive of these five wards, there are other buildings of two stories, on the right and left (f f), which surround the gardens (e e), and in which female debtors are confined: (g g) are cells for prisoners under sentence of death; where they pass their last hours previous to execution, and which are secured by double doors of cast iron.

Every thing that could possibly be effected under

these circumstances has been done for the preservation of cleanliness. All the prisoners are bathed every Sunday, previous to receiving clean shirts; for which purpose there are both cold and warm baths. There is a large stove, with some steps leading up to it for the purpose of spreading the garments of the prisoners on a grate fixed on the top of it as soon as they enter the prison, in order to destroy any impurities which they may happen to contain. Provision is also made for the moral reformation of the prisoners, by a chapel which occupies the two lower stories of the building, and of which the upper part is inhabited by the superintendant. The criminals, who sit on seats on the floor, enter at once from their places of confinement into the chapel. The debtors occupy the choirs, the clergyman a projection formed by one of the choirs. The ceiling is supported by four Doric columns. The whole prison is built of sand-stone, and the wards are roofed with large flags.

The number of persons under confinement in the prison amounted to ninety-seven, of whom sixty-one were male and female felons, and thirty-six debtors, male and female.* The allowance of provisions to

* At Lancaster (as before mentioned) we found 400 prisoners, in a population of about 680,000 persons (for the county), and at Chester only ninety-seven, from a population of nearly 200,000. It must however be considered, that Lancashire is one of the manufacturing districts.—AUTHOR.

By the parliamentary returns of 1811, the population of Lancashire was 856,000, and that of Cheshire 234,600.—TRANSLATOR.

the prisoners consists of seven pounds of bread, twelve pounds of potatoes, and two ounces of salt per week, for each person. If I rightly understood my informer, they are not allowed any butcher's meat.* The person who planned this prison is the Mr. Harrison, whom we have before mentioned as the architect at Lancaster Castle, who lives in Chester, where he has apartments in the castle, probably allowed him by government. I much wished to have formed an acquaintance with him, in order to hear some of his ideas regarding the construction of prisons, and perhaps to have obtained the sight of a plan of the building, for which I inquired in vain. A model of it in wood is placed in one of the rooms adjoining the court. There is a small oblong room in the barracks for civil causes.

Among the buildings peculiar in their kind, which afford a proof of the great briskness of trade at certain periods in Chester; the two halls for the sale of goods, viz. the Union Hall, built in 1809, and the Commercial Hall, built in the year 1815, are deserving of attention. To compare them with a German establishment, they resemble the courts at Leipzick; for example, Auerbach's Court; with this difference, that they have no thoroughfare, and like the newly established London Bazars, may be closed by one door. The first forms an equilateral, the second an

* Compare this with my statement concerning Manchester and Lancaster.

oblong square; they have each three stories, round which run wooden galleries leading to the booths, which are disposed along the passages. These halls are all closed, excepting in the market time; nor should we have seen the interior, had we not been tempted by an inscription to take advantage of the doors being open, as they could not be kept shut on account of the continual going in and out of the workmen, busied with repairs.

On the 24th of September, we left Chester. We had been advised by several friends acquainted with the remarkable objects in Cheshire, not to omit seeing Eaton Hall, the magnificent seat of Earl Grosvenor, about five or six miles from Chester. A view of this celebrated edifice, hung up in the room of the inn where we lodged, contributed to confirm us in our intention, and we were quite impatient to see it. A porter's lodge, in the Gothic style, at the entrance of the spacious park, announces what we have to expect. An immense number of fallow deer, with sheep, horned cattle, &c., feed together in the park, to the verdure of which they give a delightful animation, whilst the admirable roads and luxuriant freshness of every object by which we are surrounded, gradually prepare us for the beauties we were in quest of. At length the mansion gleams through the trees, the alley expands into a spacious lawn, and the splendid castle appears before us in all its majesty. It is, as I have already observed, wholly in

the Gothic style, in imitation of whatever is most excellent of the kind in England. It is entirely of sand-stone, and is said to have cost the earl the enormous sum of £400,000. It has three stories, of from ten to twelve windows, and is on both sides furnished with additions of one story, of which that on the left contains stables, and that on the right several dwelling rooms. The whole of the building derives a peculiarly imposing appearance, from a projection of three Gothic arches before the principal door, and two windows beside them, to which we ascend by a broad open stair. The effect is heightened by our entering at once through the great main door into the splendid hall, the roof of which, where the beams cross each other is richly ornamented with painting and gilding, and the floor of which forms a single Mosaic figure; and round the walls, at a considerable height, runs a bold gallery, hanging as it were suspended in the air. Unfortunately, this is all I have to state of this very remarkable building, as owing to the tardy arrival of the horses at Chester we reached the mansion half an hour later than the time, during which the *liberality* of the earl allows all strangers to see it every day (Saturdays and Sundays excepted). As his servants are inexorable, I would advise those who wish to see this place, to get there between twelve and four o'clock.

CHAP. II.

Entrance into Wales—Hawarden—Hawarden-Castle Holywell—St. Winifred's Well—St. Asaph—The Cathedral — Conway-Ferry — Aber-Conway — The Castle—Road by the Sea side—Penman-Mawr— Aber-Bangor-Ferry — Caernarvon — The Castle— The Eagle-Tower—Birth-Chamber of Edward II.— The Town—Return to Bangor Ferry—Passage over to Anglesea—Beaumaris—Baron Hill—The Castle.

At two miles from Chester we leave Cheshire, and enter the territory of Wales. The county of Flint, which forms the eastern part of North Wales, although the smallest, is nevertheless the most fruitful of all the Welsh counties; but on the other hand, it is less rich in picturesque beauties than its southern and western neighbours, Denbighshire and Caernarvonshire. The first place at which we arrived, seemed however to form an exception to this rule. Hawarden is a pretty little town, containing about 5000 inhabitants, which, from the manufactories of earthenware in its vicinity, and a considerable iron-foundery in the town itself, is very brisk and animated. It is however most distinguished on account of its castle, the seat of Lady Glynn, widow of Sir Chris-

topher Glynn, the head of a very considerable Welsh family. The park in which this mansion is situated, is tolerably extensive; but the most picturesque part is that which surrounds the ancient castle, standing on a hill, a few hundred paces from the modern dwelling-house. From the appearance of its ruins we may conclude, that it once contributed as much to the defence of the town as it now does to its embellishment. Lofty old lime-trees, which we found covered by the noblest blossom, surround the hill from top to bottom, through which the old walls occasionally gleam. Numerous herds of excellent cattle were grazing in the plain and along the foot of the hill; and a small stream which winds through the park, and over which there is a stone bridge completes the beauty of the picture. The modern dwelling-house, erected in the Gothic style, on the model of the buildings in the fifteenth century, is a large and magnificent building; and when viewed from the hill on which the old castle stands has a very striking appearance.

It was late in the evening when we reached Holywell, where we were shown into the ball-room of the inn; which to us, who had been accustomed to the neat little rooms of the inns in England, was not particularly agreeable. The town itself, as we found next morning, is inconsiderable, and consists of only a few streets. We hastened to visit the greatest curiosity of the place, the well of Saint Winifred; to

which the town is indebted for its name of Holywell. The surrounding country is of the most romantic description. The little Gothic church is situated at a small distance from the town, in a vale surrounded by verdant hills; the church-yard, with its numerous tomb-stones, variously decorated, stretches up the side of the hill; at the foot of this hill stands the building under which the spring rises. This building, said to have been erected by the Countess of Richmond, mother to Henry VII. is a beautiful monument of Gothic architecture. It has two stories, of which the lower forms a hall, adorned by three lofty arches, and on entering it we perceive the spring. The roof of this hall, richly ornamented in the best taste, is deserving of particular attention. This is a part of the building to the ornamenting of which the architects of the age of Henry VIII.'s reign appear to have paid singular attention. The upper story, which has three windows, is used as a school, and for the quarter sessions. The water of this spring, is very clear; it is of an emerald green colour, flowing into a basin of twelve feet in length, and half of that dimension in breadth, lined with square stones, then flows under the central arch into the open air, where it is collected in a larger basin in front of the building, which fills the fore court; and then leaving this basin it drives a mill in the vicinity of the spring. The taste can hardly be dis-

tinguished from that of common water. The difference consists merely in its being somewhat alcaline. However, it is not easy to bring one's mind to taste it, for both the internal and external basins are used for bathing; for which purpose there are wooden recesses with glass windows in the corners of the hall, where the bathers (of both sexes), undress themselves. A printed description of the well and its virtues is sold on the spot.

From this place we continued our journey to St. Asaph. The country between this place and Holywell abounds with lead ore, and we passed several mines, the constructions about which bore marks of considerable rudeness. About three miles from St. Asaph the country begins to open, and we leave the narrow ravine in which we have hitherto proceeded, for the broad and fertile valley of Clwyd, at the extremity of which lies the town of St. Asaph. This, although a bishop's see, is a very inconsiderable place containing only about 1500 inhabitants; and notwithstanding its rank as a city, it has a very rural appearance. The cathedral itself is more like the church of a thriving village, than the chief church of a diocese.

We alighted at the neat and cheerful inn of the White Lion, opposite to the cathedral, where we were received with the good natured kindness peculiar to the Welsh. We had but a few steps to go to gratify our wish of seeing the cathedral. The

church-yard is planted all round with tall old lime-trees; through which we can only obtain an occasional glimpse of the building. Its interior is divided into two parts, the old and new church; the former, or the west end (merely white-washed), is in a state of confusion, filled with broken seats, &c. but the latter, which has only been fitted up within the last twenty years, has a very elegant appearance. It is almost wholly filled with seats for the members of the chapter, on which their names and functions are inscribed in gilt letters, so that we may obtain a knowledge of the various functionaries of St. Asaph, &c. without turning over the red book! The eastern window is ornamented with a large painting on glass by the late Mr. Egginton, which is surrounded by the arms of the canons and clergy of St. Asaph, also painted on glass in the most lively colours. The picture represents our Redeemer, adorned by angels kneeling around him. The figure of Our Saviour in a standing posture, is well drawn, and the picture, from the light which apears to proceed from the body of Christ, produces a very powerful effect. We would willingly have ascended the steeple, from which there is said to be a fine view of the beautiful vale of Clwyd; but the bishop will allow no person to go up to the top of the steeple, being afraid least from this situation he might be discovered through the windows of his house, which is situated close to the church!

At the end of the town, there are several pretty houses on the road to Conway that have a truly patriarchal appearance from the ivy with which houses are frequently covered in England, and which here allows the walls to be only here and there discovered. A high wall surrounding a park belonging to Colonel Hughes, whose arms, cut in stone, decorate the elegant gate by which it is entered, runs along the road for a great way. Not far from the gate stands the porter's lodge, a very pretty building in the Gothic style. On approaching Mochdref, the sea again appears in view, and spreads out to a wide extent, uninterrupted by islands or rocks; but this sight produced a much less striking impression on us than the view of the German ocean from Dunbar, either because the point of view here was lower, or because a great part of the sea was covered with a semi-transparent fog which did not allow us to perceive its colour with sufficient distinctness, so that it looked almost like a continuation of the coast. A great number of little boats rowing about on the sea, gave animation to the scene, and the projecting of the head land to the northward, in the vicinity of Aberconway, forms here a beautiful little bay, which is exceedingly attractive from the coast being every where decked with a succession of pretty houses, and the country appearing in a high state of cultivation.

About noon we arrived at Conway-ferry, consisting only of a few houses, where we entered the ferry-

boat to cross the Conway, which is here nearly a mile broad. The view of the town as we approach it, with its high threatening walls, the ruins of the castle, and the environs covered with the most beautiful and lively green and thick underwood, forming altogether one harmonious whole, is truly noble. The majestic Conway too contributes not a little to heighten the beauty of the landscape, as it nearly washes the bottom of the walls, encircling the town, and entirely surrounds the castle to the south. The castle is connected with the land towards the north.

On our arrival at Aberconway, we hastened from our inn to the castle, the ruins of which had already so strongly attracted our attention from the opposite bank. It was built by Edward I. about the close of the thirteenth century, as a bulwark against the Welsh, and in former times must have been of great strength. It appears to have consisted of a quadrangle and pentagon, connected together so as to form one whole. It was defended by eight round towers connected with the walls, three of which are on the east towards the river; two on the south also towards the river; and three on the land-side. It has two courts, in the largest of which, on the right stands the great hall, whose walls, with the holes for the beams and the windows in them, still remain uninjured. Four colossal Gothic arches, on which the roof once rested, still also bid defiance to

time. In all the towers, with the exception of two or three (which may probably have suffered the most from age), there are smaller round towers at top as watch towers, but the stairs that led to them are wholly in ruins, and a few only of the lower steps remain, whereby one may perceive the manner in which these stairs were constructed. In the three towers on the river the rooms are still in tolerable preservation, and particularly, one of them of which the roof still remains entire, and which has a small closet formed in the thick wall. The stone benches along the walls are still unimpaired, and we see in imagination the former occupiers of the castle sitting on them, in their leisure hours, looking down on the river and the opposite bank, and feeding their eyes with the beauty of the prospect. The gently swelling hills on the opposite side, covered with fresh looking trees and underwood, have also a very picturesque appearance. The whole of the towers, and a part of the walls, are cased with a thick mantle of ivy, an ornament which seems to suit well with these majestic ruins.

The town walls are in as good repair as those of the castle. The town itself forms a square, defended on one side by the castle, and on the other by its walls. There are two entrances into the town, one from the river and the other in the opposite end from the west; the former through two large towers, the other through a single tower of the

same description. Four strong towers in good preservation, and connected by high walls, defend the town on its northern side. The inhabitants appear to derive their chief subsistence from fishing.

Behind Aberconway, the country becomes mountainous, and the way so difficult to travel, that we were obliged to take four horses. The road here winds along the mountains, which on its right are so very steep, that a parapet wall of three feet in height has been erected to prevent the carriages from being precipitated. After proceeding in this manner for about six miles, the road declines gently towards the sea, and runs close along the shore, but still at such a height, that we can see the billows breaking on it about eighty feet beneath us, on which account the wall here recommences. The weather had now (about six o'clock in the evening), entirely cleared up, and we enjoyed the views over the boundless level as from a terrace, and in all its beauty, lighted up by the setting sun. To the left rose the dark and lofty Penman-Mawr, a steep and rocky mountain, which excluded us from all view of the country, whilst the sea on our right, covered with a number of fishing-boats, the white sails of which floated about like so many sea-birds, seemed to invite us the more kindly to enjoy its beauties, as if anxious to indemnify us for our privation.

The next place we come to on this road is Aber, a pretty little village, from which we can pass by

water to Anglesea. Not far from it there is a beautiful stone bridge over a small river flowing rapidly towards the sea, the name of which we could not learn. The country here is extremely romantic. A small light coloured church on the opposite high bank of the river, with a dark back, ground forming a fine contrast to the colour of the building, has a most picturesque appearance as we approach the bridge. It is built in the modern Gothic style, and belongs to Lady Penrhyn, the widow of Lord Penrhyn, a great benefactor to Wales, whose splendid residence, Penrhyn-House, which is also built in the modern Gothic taste, is situated close behind it. We saw the whole family, consisting of eight beautiful daughters, assembled at the gate of the park, where they looked with curiosity at us travellers as we passed along.

We proceeded rapidly through Bangor to Bangor-ferry, in order to reach it in good time. This last place, which consists only of an inn, with the buildings, stables, &c. connected with it, becomes one of the most important places in North Wales, from its being one of the principal stations on the road to Ireland. Persons proceeding by this road to Ireland cross over from Bangor-ferry to the Isle of Anglesea, where they embark at Holyhead for that kingdom. Besides the convenience of the ferry, the place is highly attractive from its situation. It lies on the banks of the Strait of Menai, here

about half a mile broad, which forms the separation between Anglesea and Wales.* The house affords conveniencies and enjoyments such as are usually to be found only at bathing-places on the sea-coast. A pleasant garden, stretching to the strait, and partly on a rock which projects into the sea, affords an agreeable walk to those who frequent the inn; we occupied a room looking into it, and of which the windows were entirely shaded by its trees. We had only to walk a few steps from the house-door to reach the garden, from which there is a terrace leading down to the sea.

Next morning we took a post-chaise for Caernarvon. The road to that town is uncommonly agreeable, and proceeds through little woods, plantations, &c. Among other country seats in the vicinity of Bangor-ferry, that of Mr. Poole, which had a more striking appearance from having three pieces of cannon, of tolerably large size, planted in front for the purpose probably of salutes on festive occasions, was the most distinguished. The whole way we have a view of the south-east coast of Anglesea, which however has very little of the picturesque in its appearance, as its naked and barren rocks, and the houses scattered here and there, do not form the most agreeable picture.

* The author should have said, *between the main land of Wales and Anglesea*, because Anglesea is itself a part of Wales.—TRANS.

At a considerable distance we perceive the castle of Caernarvon, the ruins of which rise in proud majesty above the houses of the town. We alighted at the Uxbridge Hotel,* an elegant house of three stories in height, built entirely of sand-stone, adorned with the arms of its noble proprietor, at whose expense it was erected, and who is also setting on foot the establishment of warm and cold salt-water baths, which however are still in their infancy. A fine grass-plat before the house contributed to give it altogether the appearance of some nobleman's residence. One of the streets in the town leads straight from the inn to the castle; it contains several handsome sand-stone houses, between the stones of which, lines of separation are drawn with white paint. Most of the houses in the other streets are built of a coarse reddish stone.

We first saw the castle from the south side, where there is an entrance, through which Eleanor, the consort of Edward I. entered the castle, probably by a draw-bridge over the moat. It is built of two different kinds of stone, the one gray and the other of a brownish colour, which are intermixed. In a niche over the principal entrance, there is a figure of Edward I. in sand-stone as large as life, and still in tolerable pre-

* It will be recollected that the Earl of Uxbridge, the brave commander of the cavalry at the battle of Waterloo, or Belle-alliance, where he lost a leg, was created Marquis of Anglesea, in which isle he possesses estates.

servation. The king appears in full armour, and in a threatening attitude, in the act of drawing his sword. The places in which the double portcullisses stood may be still distinctly recognized; and the old hinges of the castle-gates bid defiance to the destructive tooth of time as successfully as the rest of the castle.

The castle forms an oblong square, which was once surrounded on all sides by towers of various figures, quadrangles, hexagons, and octagons. From eight to twelve of these towers still remain; among which those on the north and south sides are least decayed. The stair of the lofty *Eagle Tower* in particular is still in such good preservation that we can ascend to the very top, whence there is a beautiful view over the Menai and Anglesea. The stone figure of the eagle, from which the tower has derived its name, is still to be seen at the top, but it requires the aid of the imagination to see in it the form of a bird.* Among the remarkable objects in this town, we are shown the room in which it is said Edward II. was born.† His father, Edward I. sent his consort Eleanor of Castile to

* The helmed heads of warriors, that embellish the battlements of the next towers are of better workmanship. One of them had fallen down about two years ago, and lay in the court where we were enabled to examine it more closely.

† In 1284.

Caenarvon, to be there delivered, in order that the turbulent Welshmen, who had sworn to submit to none but a prince born among themselves, might have a sovereign of their own nation; and from that time, the heir to the English throne has always borne the title of Prince of Wales. The fire-place which warmed the little room where Edward first saw the light, is still in perfect preservation. A walk in the interior of the court along the walls, that are of the enormous thickness of from eight to ten feet, affords delightful views over the town and the harbour, which is filled with small vessels. The court, which rises considerably on the south side of the castle, towards Queen Eleanor's gate, is cleared of all rubbish, but is overgrown with grass. We found in it two Spanish six-pounders of brass, cast in 1790, taken in the last Spanish war, and marked with the initials of Charles IV. and the names of "el Codicioso,"* and "el Escarbajo," on them. The appearance of the surrounding walls, which are in many places in such good preservation that we can still perfectly distinguish the internal stone ornaments of windows, is uncommonly striking. From the castle we descended to the town. A part of its fortifications towards the sea, consisting of high walls with semi-circular towers, at regular distances, is still in very good condition. Between the walls and the sea there is a beautiful and smooth walk, kept with

* "The covetous." and "the beetle."

the neatness that has become natural to the English, which in fine weather is much frequented by the inhabitants of the town. A breast-work of stone, here and there interrupted by iron railings, runs along the sea-side; and a large square tower, projecting far beyond the wall, and opening on both sides towards the walk, has on the sea-side a large gate, and forms an entrance into the town. The prospect over the harbour and the opposite coast of Anglesea, is truly delightful.

Following the course of the town-walls along the sea side, we came to a small chapel, from which proceeded the sound of the organ and the accompanying voices of a number of children; allured by this, we turned round the corner of the wall, and entered by another gate, when we found ourselves in front of a neat and delightful little edifice in the Gothic style. We entered it for a few moments, and found it filled with well-dressed people of both sexes, who were singing with great devotion, and seemed to be very little disturbed by our entrance. On this side of the town (the eastern), are the dock-yards in which we saw several small craft, and two or three large vessels of about 150 to 200 tons, half-built. Some of the towers in the walls on this side seemed to be inhabited.

Entering the principal gate, which is flanked by two large round towers, we reached the centre of the town. In this part there are a number of old houses, distinguished by the singularity of their structure,

which has a resemblance to that of the houses in the imperial towns of Germany. Among these we are particularly struck with Plas-Mawr-House, which, according to the inscription on it, was repaired in 1691. The southern part of the town, which rises in an amphitheatrical form, is the most open and airy, and where the houses terminate there is a beautiful and uninterrupted view both towards the sea, and the ranges of mountains to the south.

By four o'clock in the afternoon, we were again at Bangor-ferry, and hastened to avail ourselves of the time for crossing over to Anglesea. Mr. Jackson, the landlord at Bangor-ferry, has a large farm on the island, opposite to the inn, where he keeps horses for travellers who wish to make excursions round Anglesea. When any person wishes to cross over, a servant lays hold of a speaking-trumpet, runs down to the sea side, and calls the people on the opposite shore to have so many horses in readiness; and an answer is returned by the same means. The Menai is about half a mile in breadth at this place, and we were conveyed over in the boat which usually bears the Irish mail.

On the opposite shore we found a dwelling-house similar to that at Bangor-ferry, with extensive stables and offices. The road runs close along the sea side, and appears to be cut out of the rocks, which tower up on its left; and this may probably be the cause of its being so much more level than

the roads in Wales. Here also there is a wall along the road towards the sea to prevent carriages from being precipitated. The prospect of Bangor, Penrhyn-House, and the indented coast of North Wales, which we enjoy till we come in sight of Beaumaris, is a great source of delight during this journey.

When near to Beaumaris, we pass a small cottage in the Gothic style, belonging to Viscount Bulkeley, on the edge of the road. A few hundred paces further on, we perceive a large gate, built in the same style, being the entrance to the park, in which Baron-hill, the seat of the viscount, is situated. Beaumaris,* the capital of Anglesea, in the south-east end of the island, is a small place, containing about 1500 inhabitants. A few neatly built houses, with beautiful flower-gardens in front, form the entrance to the main street, in which the inn, where we alighted, is situated. From thence we proceeded to view Baron-hill. A large park, with primitive beeches and oaks of a beauty which I have seldom seen equalled in England, and intersected by gravel-walks, kept in excellent order, extends up the hill, at the top of which stands this mansion. Here, however, art has been culpably negligent in seconding the efforts of nature; for it is hardly possible to conceive a worse planned or worse executed building; nay, the back part of it would be a disgrace to the house of a plain

* Beaumaris, so called from the nature and beauty of the country in which it is situated.

country gentleman. But nothing can be more noble than the extensive view from the open place in front of the house, over the whole south-eastern corner of the island toward the sea, of Bangor, Aber, Penman-Mawr, as far as Orme's-head (the headland of Aberconway), in which the noble park, Beaumaris castle, and a small Gothic building on the point of the island, form the fore-ground, and the billowy sea the middle. That part of the park which extends itself behind the building, is rich in different kinds of timber, and it contains the grave of Jane, daughter of King John of England, and queen of Alexander, King of Scotland, who ended her life here in 1227.

We proceeded by a circuitous road over a plain covered with fresh verdure, which runs along the sea side to the castle, built by Edward I., at the same time with those of Conway and Caernarvon. Two modernized towers, connected with each other by a lofty iron gate, form the entrance from the street, at the end of which, and on the same level with it, the castle stands. It appears to have consisted of two oblong squares, the outermost of which the largest, though lowest, enclosed the interior, which is smaller but higher. A large arched gate, not indeed so splendid as that of Caernarvon Castle, but in equal preservation, opens into the outer court, from which through a second gate, we enter the great inner court, which is 190 feet square. Imme-

diately, opposite to the entrance we are struck with the remains of a splendid hall of two stories, with five windows, and of which the arched gate stands exactly opposite to the entrance into the court. We can still see the marks of the chimneys along the walls. One part of this court is fitted up as a large tennis court;* for the English still pursue the game of fives or ball-playing most methodically, and next to cricket it is their chief active sport.

Ascending a half broken stair case, and following the windings of several dark passages in one of the corner towers, we reached the top of the wall, and now saw the castle with its various divisions extended before us, as in a sketch. Passing over the eastern gate, we descended a stair leading to the chapel, which is very small, and unsuited to the size of the castle. It has only three narrow windows, but it is in such good preservation, that we can still see the beautifully wrought cross vaulted ceiling, in all its perfection above us. A tower situated on the opposite side, from which by our entrance, we scared a large white owl, appears to have been fitted up for dwelling rooms. At least we saw benches under the windows still remaining fastened to the wall. The staircase had fallen down.

We were not much gratified by a walk to the church of this place, as it differs in its exterior in

* At the palace of Hampton Court, near London, there is also a regularly fitted up tennis or fives' court.

no respect from the churches we every where see in England.

We were struck with the common dress of the women here, and in Wales, who even in their Sunday finery, wear men's black round hats, with a little cap below it: a head dress which looked very becoming with youthful round faces, but disfigured women of a more advanced age very much. On our return we beheld the sea, most gloriously lighted up by an evening cloud of a gold yellow colour.

CHAP. III.

Bangor—The Cathedral—Lime-Grove—The Slate Quarries—The Valley of Nant-Frangon—The New Road—Capel Cerrig—Lord Penrhyn's Inn—Cernioge Mawr—The Inn—Pennant's Guide—Owen Glendower—Llangollen—Castle of Dinas Bran—Abbey of Valle Crucis—Pont y Cysylltan—The Aqueduct—Chirk—The Aqueduct—The Subterranean Canal—Oswestry—Welch Pool—Powis Castle—Collection of Pictures—Montgomery—The Craven Arms' Inn.

At eight o'clock the next morning we left Bangor-ferry, on our return southward by the way of Bangor. The cathedral, probably the only object worth viewing at this place, is a very plain building, quite in the common Gothic style of the fifteenth century, and situated so low in a hollow, that the houses in the town reach almost above the line of its roof. The west end has lately been white-washed, and the beams in the roof of the choir appear likewise to be new. The place appropriated for the bishop is not to be compared for elegance in the remotest degree with those of his official brethren in

England. The organ, according to an inscription on it, was the gift of one of the canons, Dr. Th. Lloyd. The houses situated at the east end of the town, although they cannot boast of much architectural splendour, are very neat, and please us by a display of fancy in the design and their connexion with the surrounding landscape.

Lime Grove, the seat of Mr. B. Wyatt, brother to the celebrated architect lately deceased, lies in a very picturesque situation, beside a small stream in the back ground of the landscape, half concealed amidst wood, and at about two hundred paces distance from the bridge over which we pass. Mr. Wyatt's slate works extend to a distance of six miles round his house. The slates are brought up from the quarry to a hill by horses, from whence they descend to the Menai by the weight of the waggons themselves; twenty or thirty of which, fastened to each other, ascend and descend on an inclined plane, on iron waggon ways. For this purpose houses are built, where the cylinders are kept, round which the chains that fasten the waggons together, are rolled and unrolled. We were told by the workmen, that no fewer than 300 waggons of this kind are kept in constant employment, which does not seem improbable, as in proceeding further we found several houses of the same description standing by the side of the road. The whole apparatus, including the iron railways, is said to have cost £70,000.

We now struck into the road which goes westwards to Llangollen. A wild vale, called Nant-Frangon, through which the road passes, must before the construction of the new road, which was forming at the time we visited it, have been totally impassable in the latter part of the year. The Ogwen, which issues from a little lake of the same name, not far from Capel Cerrig, flows beside the road, and where it intersects the road elegant little granite bridges have been erected, the scaffoldings of which were still to be seen in the arches. A breast work of loose lime stones, not bound together by mortar, was raised along the bank of the deep hollow through which the river rushes along; and where the road was impeded by rocks, workmen were employed in blowing them up with gunpowder. The chasm is suddenly interrupted by a plain of about a mile in breadth, called Y Waen Oer, "the plain of the children." But the ravine becomes still more wild than ever as we approach Capel Cerrig, where we proceed along the singular mountain, Y Trifaen, on the top of which are two high stones standing upright, that have the appearance of two tall men, and produce altogether a very peculiar effect.

Capel Cerrig,* a small place, consisting of a few peasant's houses, and a chapel, becomes important from its romantic situation, not far from the foot of Snowdon, the highest mountain in Wales. A great

* Likewise spelt Capel Curig.

benefit has been conferred on travellers by Lord Penrhyn, whom we have already mentioned, by the large inn built by him at this place, where we can solace ourselves after the toilsome passage through the valley. This inn is built agreeably to a design of Mr. Wyatt, the architect, but is by no means one of his masterpieces. The whole consists of one house of three, and another of four stories in height, situated close to each other; the latter being again separated into two divisions, one of which has a gate in the Gothic style, and the other a gate in the common style. We were ushered into a pretty little hexangular room, in a projection behind the building, the windings of which opened into the garden, and in the contemplation of the beautiful prospect we here enjoyed, soon forgot all our objections to the building itself. It is not however to be supposed that we have here an extensive prospect, for the view is bounded by a mountain, rising at a small distance from the house. But the gradual terrace-like ascent, and the rich and beautiful brushwood with which it is covered almost to its very summit, have a very picturesque appearance. The garden, which runs along the whole length of the building in which we were, consisting of the projection already mentioned, and two other square projections connected together by intermediate structures, is indeed very narrow, and contains only a gravel walk with a few flower beds on each side, but from its length and the number of

laurustinuses, roses, &c. with which it is filled, it has on the whole a very agreeable appearance. In order to enjoy the prospect of the surrounding country, and especially to the westward, we must ascend an eminence in front of the house. Here the country spreads itself out before us in all its wild beauty; in every direction we see nothing but rocks and ravines. To the west we perceive two little lakes at the foot of Snowden, not far from each other; and above them the dark Snowden itself, with its two closely approximating points. To the left of Snowden rises the Moel Siabod, with its three jagged points, and to these in regular gradation follow in a connected chain the mountains, which at length complete the wall behind the inn. This inn, notwithstanding its unconnected plan, is provided with every convenience a traveller can wish for. Nay, suitable provision is even made for the scientific tourist, as ancient and modern topographic and orographic maps of Wales are hung along the walls of the passage which connects the small house with the larger one.

We next proceeded to Cerniog. The waterfall of Rhaiadyr y Wenol, the beauty of which is painted in the most lively colours in all the descriptions of Wales, appeared to me very insignificant. The river Llugwy falls here from a rock which rises in the middle of its bed, with considerable rapidity into the depth below, and then forces itself under the bridge of Pont y Rhydlanvaur. The country now assumes

a milder character; the new road, the commencement of which we have before mentioned, and of which the southern part is already completed, runs close along the banks of the Llugwy, that winds, or rather to characterize its impetuosity, we ought to say, forces itself through the valley. To enjoy the beauties of the country, I got out of the carriage, and walked for a mile or two along the stone railing which has been built along the side of the river. A single tree, standing in front of a small but very neat house, appeared in this situation so agreeable and attractive to me, that I could not keep myself from frequently looking back towards it. The splendid seat of Mr. Wingfield, which has a long front in the Gothic style, with round towers projecting at each end, did not appear to me half so attractive as the simple little house just mentioned. The construction of this road must have been attended with vast trouble, from the number of projecting rocks that obstruct the way. Marks of the gunpowder are every where visible in the rocks which bound the left side of the road. I asked the labourers employed in spreading stones and levelling the surface, how long they had been employed on it; and they answered me ten months, which is comparatively speaking a very short period, when we consider that the length of the road is at least from twelve to fifteen miles, and that besides the main road ten or twelve well built stone bridges, some of one and others of two

arches, have also been erected. We must allow that it will be difficult to match the undertaking in the same space of time in any other country.

An indisposition with which my travelling companion was seized compelled us at five o'clock in the evening, to remain for the night at the inn of Cernioge Mawr, and I can truly say that to this accident I owe some of the most agreeable hours I enjoyed during my stay in England. The interior as well as the exterior of the house were quite calculated to illustrate the meaning of that untranslateable word "comfort," of which an idea can be formed only in England. The house was of a simple appearance, two stories in height, with only five windows in front, and before it was a level court-yard, laid with gravel, in which peacocks, turkies, pigeons, and other poultry strutted about in rural security. Three fine old maple trees formed a row at one side of the door, and a bench under them invited to repose under their shade. A little grove opposite to the house formed a kind of partition towards the high road. The interior arrangement of the house was altogether such as any private person might wish to imitate. We had our choice of several neat and even elegant bed rooms; and our pleasant and well furnished sitting-room, on the right of the entrance below stairs, afforded me the gratification of feeding the poultry, in the court and on the window-sill, out of my hand. A large dog, who from time to time

paid his visits and partook of my supper, likewise occupied his place in this rural picture. But we did not want at the same time for more refined enjoyments. The landlady's daughter played Welsh airs, the whole evening through on the harp,* the favourite instrument of the Welsh, which afforded us a most agreeable entertainment.

An evening walk along the road towards Conway, in such fine clear weather as we had not had for several weeks, must not be passed over in silence, any more than our other gratifications at honest Job Weaver's inn, the sign of the Three Barrels, which I shall not soon forget.

Next morning we proceeded on our journey to Corwen, and passed through Cerig y Druidian, a neat little village, in which it is said some remains of the Druidical worship, consisting of stones hollowed out, &c. are still to be seen. Not far from it there is a hill, about five or six hundred paces from the road, called Pen Gwerwyn, on which are the remains of an ancient British fortress, to which Caractacus is said to have retired when attacked by the Romans. At the distance from which we saw it with the aid of our glass, we could only perceive the vestiges of some entrenchments of earth, which had been thrown up; but these (as I have since learned from Nicholson's book,†

* The Welsh harp is peculiarly constructed. For many octaves it has double and treble strings beside each other.

† The Cambrian Traveller's Guide, second edition. Stourport, 1813, 8vo.

and other works), are the only remains. Our postillion perceiving our anxiety to learn further particulars respecting this remarkable spot, called a man to us who was standing not far from the road, and appeared to be an overseer of the works on the new road to Bala; which turns off here. He immediately gave us the information required, and in general seemed to be thoroughly conversant in the history and antiquities of his native country. He himself had acted as guide to Pennant, the celebrated English topographer, in his journeys through this part of Wales; spoke in high terms of the zeal with which that author had pursued his researches, and mentioned several Druidical monuments which he himself had discovered in these excursions.

As we approach the beautiful valley Edeirnion the country becomes still more delightful. We here pass the famous bridge of Pont y Glyn, over a deep ravine, where the Dee dashes foaming over the rocks. The depth of the hollow is the cause of the stupendous substruction, which is from sixty to eighty feet deep, and from which the bold arch over the river commences. Though the country here is no longer so wildly romantic as that beyond Cerniog, it is still more than ordinarily picturesque from the woods which extend to the bridge on both sides of the road. I should think that the fall itself might be seen best when ascending the hill to Cerniog, whereas we approached it from the opposite direction.

Rug, the elegant seat of Colonel Vaughan (who still possesses the dagger, knife, and fork, generally worn by Owen Glendower) lies to the right of the road.

Corwen, a small town, has much the appearance of a village, but it is greatly favoured by its beautiful situation on the Dee, at the foot of the mountain of Berwin. Over the door of the inn there is a gigantic head of Owen Glendower, the renowned Welsh chieftain, and opponent of Henry IV. of England, represented in full armour, as according to tradition, that hero went regularly to church at Corwen.

On our inquiring for Caer Drewyn, a Roman fortification, said to be situated in the neighbourhood of this town; our landlord pointed to the top of a hill on the opposite side of the Dee, and assured us that it was not worth our while to climb it, as the whole of the remains consisted of some loose stones, disposed in the form of a circle, an account which we found afterwards confirmed in the information of other travellers. We therefore made no longer stay at Corwen, but immediately proceeded on our journey to Llangollen.

The country appeared now richer and more fruitful and picturesque every moment. The noble vale of Glendurdiog, which once served as a place of retreat to Owen Glendower in his difficulties, includes the country between Corwen and Llangollen, and rises on both sides the Dee, to the highest point, on which

the last mentioned place is situated. The river winds romantically through meadows and gardens, past a great number of small country houses and peasant's cottages, surrounded by the most beautiful and luxuriant verdure, at small distances from each other on the bank opposite to the road. At a little distance from the town, but likewise on the opposite side of the river, stands a large house with two wings, built of a reddish kind of stone, which appears to great advantage, but our postillion could not inform us the name of its owner. The river itself seems to be here artificially divided into two branches, one of which drives several mills.

Even at a considerable distance we could discover the ruins of the castle of Dinas Bran, on the top of a hill near Llangollen, as well as the other hills in its vicinity. The view of the town affords little gratification; the houses are mean, and not kept very clean, and the streets are narrow and crooked. The stone bridge of five arches over the Dee, is by no means an embellishment to the town; the more ancient part, which was built in the year 1346, by John Trevor, Bishop of St. Asaph, still wholly retains its pointed Gothic arches, whilst the other part exhibits the more modern elliptic form: an alteration probably effected when the bridge was under repair. The river, which was very shallow when we were at Llangollen, flowed only under the middle arches, so that the other arches were on dry ground.

We alighted at the Hand inn, and were here also saluted by the tones of the Welsh harp, on which the virtuoso of the place performed at the door of our room. He also played only national airs,* which were indeed simple, but very pleasing. On inquiring for a guide to conduct us to the abbey of Valle Crucis, a little boy made his appearance, who promised to take us first to the castle of Dinas Bran, and then to the abbey. The hill on which the former is situated is north from the town.

The road is tolerable as far as the hut of a woman who supplies travellers with stout climbing sticks; but on proceeding further it becomes very unpleasant and difficult, on account of the short slippery moss with which the mountain is covered, nay, it would even be dangerous, were it not for the footsteps which numerous visitants have imprinted in many places, and which have at length become so many steps. We at length reached the summit of the mountain, and saw the ruins before us. The building appears to be nearly an equilateral quadrangle,† and is surrounded by a moat; but the walls seem to have been built of the rocks, which are here and there discovered on the top of the hill. There now remains only a part of the covered way, and one of the corners of the building with the ends of the

* These have lately appeared in a collection under the title of Welsh Melodies.

† Not an oblong square, as Nicholson describes it.

arches. The view from the top of the mountain is much less interesting than I had expected to find it. On the south side we have only a view of the town with the mountains behind it, and the course of the Ellesmere canal, a branch from which is carried past Llangollen; and towards the north we see only a part of the vale of Valle Crucis, with the country on the other side of the Dee, in which Dinâren Hall, the seat of Mr. Edward Roberts, a large handsome building in the prevailing Gothic taste, with a great number of windows, is a prominent object. A mist which began to spread itself when I was on the top of a mountain, unexpectedly deprived me of the more distant parts of the view, and hastened my descent.

The road to the vale of Valle Crucis leads along the canal before mentioned, over which there are two handsome stone bridges of a single arch. It is carried over the Dee, by a small aqueduct nearer to the entrance of the valley; heaps of slates, from the neighbouring quarries, were piled up on its banks, beyond which the banks are lined with trees. The entrance into the vale itself is most delightful from the surrounding scenery. Lofty mountains, covered with a green sward enclose it on both sides, and within it are trees of all sorts disposed in the most picturesque groups. Half concealed amongst these trees appears the abbey of Valle Crucis, a building which from the numberless views of it by the ablest English landscape painters, since the time of Pennant (who first called the public

notice towards it), has become celebrated as one of the most picturesque ruins in England.* The nave of the church, with the large east and west windows opposite to each other are the parts most entire. The west window consists of two parts one above the other, of which the undermost has one, and the other forms three separate windows, divided from each other by slender pillars; the building itself is of small bricks, but the frames of the windows are of sand-stone, as are also the interior decorations, which in the upper windows are still in good preservation. The east window is like the west in regard to architectural plan, except that it forms three divisions below and two smaller ones above, but is not in such good preservation, as all the inside ornaments are gone. From the remains of the arches in the interior of the nave it is evident that it was built in the rudest style of Saxon architecture; the pillars are very strong, and the capitals finished exactly in the manner of the earliest Saxon edifices. A door in the abbey itself has a perfectly round arch, ornamented in the Saxon manner. These ruins have a peculiarly picturesque appearance from the ash trees which are growing both in the nave and on the outside near the west window, through which the ruins peep forth as we approach them. These noble remains

* Among these, the excellent view in oil colours, by Glover, which appeared at the exhibition in Spring Gardens in 1816, is particularly distinguished.

are as much injured by the use which is made of them as they are improved by the surrounding scenery. The Abbey (properly so called), which extends from the eastern window southwards, has been converted into an inn, and stables for horses and cows have been built to it; so that at present the whole forms a square court, surrounded with buildings, the north wing of which consists of the church, and it is necessary to cross the square and stalk over dung-heaps, in order to enter it. We did not see the pillars erected to the memory of the Welsh Prince, Eliseg, near to the abbey, which have been so often described, as we wished to proceed on our journey the same afternoon.

At four o'clock we left Llangollen. Owing to the inattention of our postillion we had passed Plas Newydd, the house occupied by two English ladies, frequently mentioned in tours, namely, Lady Eleanor Butler, and Miss Ponsonby (of the Ormond family), without its having been pointed out to us. The Dee gradually widens as we advance from Llangollen to Oswestry, and the country appears richer and better cultivated. The mountains on the opposite side of the river present a pleasing variety of light and form; whilst on the side on which we were, numerous country seats give beauty to the country. Among these mansions Trevor Hall, the family seat of the Lloyds, on arising ground near the road, appears to great advantage. Shortly afterwards the eye is attracted by

the magnificent aqueduct over the Dee, and especially by the contrast of colours which it exhibits; the arches are of iron, and appear black, while the piers, which are of sand-stone, appear of a bright yellow. By this aqueduct the Ellesmere canal is carried over the ravine through which the Dee flows, and runs through Denbighshire. To reach it, we must descend from the road which is higher than it, and proceed to it along a side path that crosses a draw bridge. The place near which it is situated is called Pont y Cysylltau, whence the Aqueduct itself frequently goes by that name. It was commenced in the year 1795, under the direction of the celebrated engineer, Mr. Thomas Telford,* and opened on the 29th November, 1805. The length of the whole is said to be 1007 feet;† its height from the surface of the river to the upper line of the balustrade 126 feet, and its width about twelve feet within the iron work. The eighteen piers of excellent sand-stone on which it rests are about forty-five feet distant from each other, and connected by arches of cast

* I am happy in having this opportunity of mentioning that I have the pleasure of being personally acquainted with this most amiable gentleman, so well known for his great talents and scientific acquirements; and that I am indebted for his acquaintance to my worthy friend, Mr. Taylor, bookseller, in London.

† My own measurement gave another result, namely 360 paces.

iron, which combine elegance with durability, and give the whole an appearance of lightness in which the aqueducts of Glasgow and Lancaster are deficient. The span of the arches appeared to me to be about twenty feet. The balustrade is likewise of iron, consisting of bars on the one side, but on the other of iron plates, rivetted fast to each other. The craft by means of which the coal navigation is carried on through the canal are very narrow, and drawn by horses. At the end of this aqueduct there is a small bason with a lock to it, as in the aqueduct at Lancaster.

We next proceeded to Chirk. On the road we passed a high tower, near which there is a small building by way of monument, erected by Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, the present representative of the ancient family of the Wynns, of which the estates are in this neighbourhood. Wynnstay, the family seat, a superb edifice of three stories in height, with a front of immense extent, lies at a little distance on the left of the road. Chirk itself is an inconsiderable place, of about 1000 inhabitants, with a very plain church, said to contain some monuments of the Myddletons, of whom Chirk Castle is the family seat. Chirk has however acquired greater celebrity from the aqueduct which here conducts the Ellesmere Canal across the vale of Ceriog and the river of that name, which runs through it, than from this castle. This aqueduct was (like that at Llangollen) planned

by Mr. Telford, and consists of ten stone arches, which together are said to be 200 yards in length.* Its height up to the balustrade, which is constructed like that at Llangollen, is sixty-five feet in the centre. The canal, after being here carried above the earth, is shortly afterwards, near Chirk, carried under ground for nearly 750 feet. For this purpose a tunnel has been cut through a hill which opposed it, to allow the canal to pass under it. Curiosity induced me to examine more particularly this wonderful structure; I therefore entered it, and found at first the wandering unseen in this manner under every thing living, exceedingly interesting. A wooden rail which runs by the edge of the canal and along the open space left between it and the arch for a foot-path, serves to prevent any unfortunate accidents. The walk however soon lost the charm of novelty, and with the light of day all my pleasure disappeared. I soon found myself in utter darkness, with the aperture at the end of the tunnel, appearing at a distance like a dim star; the path became either actually or seemingly more narrow, so that I frequently struck against the wall; the damp trickled down through the stones, and rendered the ground slippery and walking unsafe; and I was therefore heartily rejoiced, when after a walk of about ten minutes, I again found myself in the open air. Here also the transport of coals is carried on to

*, My measurement differs here also; I made it 260 paces.

a great extent; and several places for making coke have been constructed in the vicinity of the aqueduct. Chirk Castle, nearly a mile and a half from this place, described by all travellers as a remarkable monument of the warlike architecture of the thirteenth century, and on the whole a building of very striking appearance, could only be seen by us at a distance, as the dusk of evening was rapidly advancing. At a little distance behind Chirk we pass the Welsh border, and enter Shropshire.

At eight o'clock in the evening we arrived at Oswestry, which we left again next morning. The inn, with the sign of the Cross Foxes (two foxes over a cross), has a fine large garden, regularly frequented by the town's people in their social meetings, with a neat pavilion at the end of it; and opposite to it lies a pleasant little wood, which appears to surround some public building. The town itself contains about 6000 inhabitants. The church is situated almost outside of the town, and is a large irregular structure. The large poor-house, about a mile from the town on the road to Welsh-pool, is undoubtedly one of the most remarkable objects about the place. It was built in the year 1794, for the purpose of receiving the poor of Oswestry, and eleven neighbouring parishes. It is finely situated on a hill to the left of the road. It has three stories and nineteen windows, three in each of the projections at the ends, and

thirteen in the central building, and it is constructed of a reddish kind of brick.*

The road to Welsh-pool, like all by-roads in England, is bad, nay, in many places dangerous, on account of the ruts and hollows in it; and we were therefore indebted to the caution of our very intelligent postillion, for passing it without any accident. We had purposely taken the road to Welsh-pool to avoid passing again through Shrewsbury, and consequently had scarcely passed the borders of Wales, when after a few hours we again entered Montgomeryshire, one of the Welsh counties. The town is small, but very pleasantly situated at the foot of a hill, of which the summit is crowned by Powis Castle, and it is surrounded by an extremely fruitful country. The church is a very simple building, and the main street contains some pretty houses and shops.

Powis Castle, the seat of Lord Clive, eldest son of the Earl of Powis, is situated as above mentioned, on a hill about a mile from the town, in the centre of a large park, which like other places of the same kind in England, is not deficient in grandeur. The castle itself has two courts, of which that on the west is bounded by a long building, while on the south side a short gallery, and on the opposite north side, one wing of the old castle projects, the remaining parts of this castle enclosing the second smaller court,

* The plan of this building has great resemblance to that of Soho, near Birmingham.

which is of a square form. The long building, which has a flat roof, and is from bottom to top so overgrown with ivy, that the whole front appears one green wall, contains in the second story a splendid room with six windows, formerly used as a ball-room, and hung with beautiful paintings, since transferred to Walcot, the seat of Earl Powis. The space in front of this building is laid with gravel, and room is left in the centre for a fine oval grass plot, which harmonizes very agreeably with the ivy-covered walls of the house. In the gallery towards the south, under which is the entrance door, stands a colossal group, not badly executed in sand-stone, representing Perseus conquering Bellerophon. The fourth side of this court is open, and only enclosed by a stone balustrade, over which we look down on a large garden in the old French style, but in excellent order. Opposite to the entrance a broad stair leads to what is properly the castle, which once must have presented a very grand appearance, but has suffered much from the injudicious manner in which it has been modernized. The towers indeed still remain at the corners, and the battlements on the walls; but the pointed Gothic arches of the windows have vanished, and with them all that was characteristic in the building.

The great and splendid staircase, leading to the upper story, is suited to the ancient magnificence which the interior of the castle still retains. At

the foot of it is a very beautiful antique marble statue, representing a Roman lady, probably an empress, seated; a pretty little sarcophagus, consecrated to M. Cæcilius, by Calvisia Zosime and M. Cæcilius Calippus, his heirs, forms the pedestal to it. The great fresco painting above the staircase, representing the triumph of Queen Anne, is by Lanscroon, an assistant to Verrio, and in his manner. A low gallery, in the more ancient part of the castle, is filled on both sides with marble busts of the Roman emperors, almost all of them copies. Three statues of consuls or orators, said to have been found at Herculaneum, may possibly be antique, but they have been so much restored, that it is impossible to decide as to the value of what is really old in them. There is a noble table, twelve feet in length by eight feet, of Florentine Mosaic, inlaid with landscapes, flower-pieces, and other ornaments, in stones of the most various descriptions, at the end of the gallery. The more modern rooms are on the farther side of the stairs. I was immediately struck on entering into the first of these rooms with the appearance of a half-length figure of Bonaparte in his usual uniform dress, green with white facings, over the chimney-piece, with a small marble bust of the same person beside it on a table near the window, ornaments which I should hardly have expected to find in the principal room of an English nobleman; but which, however, are frequently to be

met with in similar places in England. A tolerably good picture of the Annunciation, after Caracci, affords the only compensation for the unpleasant feeling caused by the sight of these two objects. The new library, a small modern room, from which there is a fine view of the garden, we found to be entirely filled with French books, which had been purchased by the young Lord Clive, then just returned from France, partly from booksellers, and partly at the auction of Josephine's library. In the second state-apartment, which is furnished in pretty good taste, there are several good portraits, and among others, that of the celebrated Lord Herbert of Cherbury, the biographer of Henry VIII., a whole length figure; a portrait of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, said to be by Vandyke (probably a copy); a daughter of the Earl of Northumberland, and her husband, by an unknown artist, but well painted; Lord Percy Herbert,* and his lady, by Janssen. The state-apartment which was once fitted up for the reception of King Charles I., but never occupied by him, as he did not make his appearance at the castle, proves the wealth of the possessor of Powis castle; it is entirely hung with crimson velvet, embroidered with gold; and the toilet-utensils, which still remain unmoved, are of silver gilt. The old library appears to be well provided with old English literature. Among the curiosities shown here, may be reckoned the model of

* The Herbert family possessed this castle for a time.

a war elephant, entirely covered with a scale coat of mail, and bearing a spear fastened to the forehead, and swords to its tusks, which was brought home by the celebrated Lord Clive,* governor of India, from that country. From the castle, properly so called, we pass through a portal (where, on each side, are placed in niches, the statues of Kings Offa and Edgar, once rulers of this part of the country, in the time of the Saxon heptarchy), into the garden, which, as before-mentioned, is yet quite in the old French, or rather the Italian style. The prospect from the upper terrace (from which we descend by broad stone steps into the garden), may unquestionably be reckoned among the finest in this part of England. In the fore-ground we have the magnificent garden, with its verdant aloes, walks, hedges, vases, and statues; in the middle-ground, a well cultivated plain thickly covered with villages; on the left the town of Welsh-pool; in the back-ground, the mountains of of Moel y Galfa, Craig Breiddyn, and Cefn Castle, and on the highest point of one of them a lofty obelisk, erected in honour of the naval hero, Lord Rodney. These altogether form the finest picture for the Easel that can possibly be wished for, to which the garden, quite in a foreign and southern taste, communicates an additional attraction. On reaching Montgomery, the road, which had hitherto continued bad, became somewhat better. This town is

* Grandfather to the present lord.

small, but very neat, and from its noble situation in a thriving fruitful country, and its being surrounded by fields and meadows, is very interesting. We ascended the hill, at the foot of which it lies, by a pleasant winding path. A small grove at the top of the hill affords a resting point, from which we have a view of the whole country. To the left, and on the brow of the hill, stand the ruins of the castle, which in the thirteenth century, was one of the strongest places in Wales. The foundations of a tower, and some other inconsiderable fragments of walls are all that now remain of it. The county-prison, likewise situated on the hill, is small, but as we were informed by our landlady, was crowded with debtors. We next proceeded to Bishop's-Castle, a small place, which, with a population of not quite 1000 inhabitants, returns two members to parliament. The castle, of which no vestige now remains, was once the residence of the bishops of Hereford.* An octagon grass-plat in the court of the castle inn, the principal inn in the place, is said to mark the spot where it once stood. We left Bishop's-Castle about seven o'clock in the evening, intending to reach Ludlow if possible before night. About three miles from the first-mentioned place, is Walcot-house, the seat of Earl Powis, where, as I have before observed, he has collected all the treasures of art

* As the bishops of Durham still live at Bishop's Auckland, twelve miles from Durham.

which were formerly in Powis castle. It consists of the dwelling-house, properly so called, a stately villa of two stories, with a portico of four Doric colmns; and the offices, which form a square at a small distance from it. The situation of this mansion, at the foot of a chain of mountains, up the side of which the park seems to run, is very beautiful. Not having reached Ludlow by nine o'clock, we resolved to take the advice of our postillion, and stop for the night at the Craven-Arms inn, not far from the village of Newton, an inn built by Lord Craven,* the proprietor of the neighbouring grounds, and a very respectable place of reception for strangers. We found the house shut (a very rare circumstance in England), a measure no doubt deemed necessary on account of its solitary situation; but after repeated knockings at the door, it was opened, and we met with a very agreeable reception. From the windows of our bed-room we had the view of a grass-plat in the centre of the high road, where it divides on the right to Bishop's-Castle, and on the left to Shrewsbury, and in the centre of this grass-plat stands an obelisk, on which the distances of forty-eight different places are marked.

* Probably the eldest son of the celebrated Lady Craven, afterwards Margravine of Anspach.

CHAP IV.

Bromfield—Oakley Park—Picture of Animals, by Weenix—Ludlow—The Church—The Guildhall—The Castle—Country Houses—Leominster—The Church—Hereford—The Cathedral—Castle Green—Monmouth—The Kymin—Tintern-Abbey—Piercefield—The Park—Chepstow—The new Bridge—The Castle—Beachly-Passage—Passage across the Severn.

About half past seven o'clock in the morning we left the Craven Arms inn, with feelings of gratitude towards its founder, and took the road to Bromfield. In passing through the neighbouring village of Newton, we noticed some pretty houses with gardens in front; and not far from them an alley of genuine chesnut-trees of a luxuriant foliage that could scarcely have been excelled in the south. In the distance we perceive Downton-Castle, a villa built by the celebrated antiquary, Richard Payne Knight, which appears externally to be constructed in the Gothic style, with battlements; but the interior is entirely modern, and adorned with colonnades, friezes, &c. of the Grecian architecture; a singular taste, which, as might be expected, has not found any imitators. Close to Bromfield (a little village),

lies Oakley-park, the seat of Lady Clive, widow of the governor-general of India, to which a by-road runs off before we come to the bridge over the Ouey. The park, through which we proceed to the house, is said to be one of the most celebrated in England; but judging impartially, I cannot allow it this preference, as I saw nothing in it but a few old trees, and found the walks in a very disorderly condition. The house itself, with its portico of four Doric columns, has a very fine appearance; and its interior, which we had obtained permission to see, does not disgrace the outside. In the round vestibule, which we entered through the portico, there was a good telescope on a frame; and a beautiful Italian landscape decorated the walls. The library contains nothing remarkable. Over the piano-forte in the parlour there is an excellent picture by Weenix, sixteen feet by eight, probably one of the largest of that master. It represents a sportsman resting after having returned with his dogs from the chace; opposite to him stands a column with a Satyr on it; dead game of all kinds, a heron, partridges, moorfowl, a stag, and two hares, all executed in a masterly manner, are lying before him, and around the column. The figures of the hunter, and the dog standing before him, are well executed, though probably by another hand. On the whole, this picture is a masterpiece, and has scarcely its equal. Over the chimney-piece hangs a half-length portrait of

Lord Clive in uniform, probably by Reynolds. Several views, brought from Italy, and a fine drawing by Miss Clive, sister to Lord Clive, embellish a neighbouring room. The old lady has lately completed her eighty-first year, and is said to possess great vivacity.

Before we came in sight of the town of Ludlow, we perceived the castle proudly rearing its head above it, announcing that we should here have to admire another splendid monument of the old times of chivalry. The town itself is one of the most considerable in Shropshire. At the end of the street in which our inn was situated, we saw a handsome building ornamented with arcades, where the corn-market is held. The church is an ancient and venerable edifice; the choir is small, and has five windows, the larger opposite to the entrance, and two narrower ones on each side, all the five entirely filled with paintings on glass, in good preservation, of which those to the left represent the Apostles, whose heads are uncommonly expressive; but the great window over the altar contains a representation of the Martyrdom of Saint Laurence. In the centre of the church, where the cross aisles run out on each side, four immense arches form a square, over which is the steeple. The organ, is a very fine one, and was, according to the inscription, given to the church in 1763, by [illegible] Powis. Of monuments there are none worthy of remark, with the exception of the

grave of Ambrosia Sidney, daughter of the president, Sir Henry Sidney; and one erected to the honour of Prince Arthur, son to Henry VII. and first husband of the Princess Catharine of Arragon,* whose heart is said to be buried under a kind of canopy in the wall.

The new Guildhall, a beautiful building in the Gothic style, has a very striking appearance for a court of justice, and bears much resemblance to the great halls of the colleges at the universities. But all these buildings are far inferior to the castle, which may be ranked with the most beautiful remains of the kind in the three kingdoms. It forms an irregular square, and is surrounded on all the four sides by towers of various forms, some round, some square, several of which are still in perfect preservation.† A small porter's lodge in the modern Gothic style, ornaments the entrance. We come first into the large court of the castle, entirely overgrown with grass, into which enter the sides of several modern buildings, having the appellation of Barbican.‡ From this, passing over a dry ditch, we arrive at the castle-gate, properly so called, over which are the windows of the room wherein Butler, who long held the office of steward of the castle, wrote

* Who afterwards married his brother, Henry VIII.

† See W. Hodge's Historical Account of Ludlow Castle, 1794, 8vo.—Nicholson. p. 339, &c.

‡ A street near West Smithfield, in London, bears the same name. See Todd's edition of Johnson, under Barbican.

the first Canto of his Hudibras. A kind of covered way leads into the interior of the castle, and to a second court. In this we are at first sight struck with a highly singular round building, of Saxon architecture. It is without roof, is of two stories, and has at top a range of battlements, some of which have already fallen down. It is commonly said to have been a chapel, but its appearance does not warrant this conclusion. I do not allude so much to its round form (of which there are several examples in England), as to its battlements.* Both the doors and the windows are circular at top, and are surrounded with rich ornaments; round arches traversing each other, run along the walls in the interior. The projecting supports of the beams of the first story are ornamented with human countenances. The great hall is still in good preservation, in which Milton's Comus was performed in the year 1634, by the sons and daughters of the governor, Lord Bridgewater; as are also the council-chamber, a noble room with four large windows on each side, a sitting-room, with stone benches along the windows and other conveniencies. An immense square tower, exactly similar to that of John of Gaunt at Lancaster, fills one of the corners of the court. The stone staircase is still in perfect preservation, and inspired me with the desire of ascending to the top. My exertions were

* For example, St. Sepulchre's church at Cambridge, and the Temple chapel at London.

rewarded with the noble view of the river (the Teme), and the stone bridge over it; of the fruitful opposite bank, and of the castle itself, and its internal arrangements, although this was a sort of hazardous attempt. A beautiful walk, formed by three rows of beech trees, running parallel to each other (planted by the Countess of Powis, in 1772), is the general resort of the inhabitants on Sundays and festivals. After seeing the interior of the castle, we proceeded round the outside of the building. It must have a most picturesque appearance from the opposite bank of the river, a view which is very happily given in a work to which I have often before alluded.*

About one o'clock we left Ludlow, and drove through a Gothic gate between two round towers, the only remaining one of seven which this once strongly fortified place in former times possessed. There are several uncommonly splendid mansions at a small distance from the town, as Luddfort, the seat of Mrs. Charlton, which notwithstanding its old fashioned appearance, from its extensive park, and large garden, forms an agreeable landscape; Mr. Salwey's house, called "*the Moor*," a large building, of red bricks, having twelve windows, with a portico and pediment, situated on a rising ground, and surrounded by a large park in the old style, which appears as if the representative of all the English country seats of the last generation;

* Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet. vol. 5. G. 2.

Mr. Th. R. Salwey's more elegant seat, called "the Lodge," situated on a hill, and embellished with all the art of modern architecture; the Hays, another villa, in a more simple taste, of the late Mr. J. Salwey; and several others.

We next proceeded to Leominster. This town is small, but it is delightfully situated in a fruitful valley on the river Wye. The north end of the town contains a number of houses whose great age is evident from their architecture; whilst those around the church, are in a more modern and agreeable style. The town-house is of the former description, and is very curiously constructed of wood-work and stone. We were not more struck with the mode of construction of this building than we were with observing a notice (the first regarding this subject seen by us in England), that in a few days a balloon would ascend over the heads of the inhabitants of Leominster. In our walk to the church, we saw several modern buildings, among which the large house belonging to a legal practitioner of the name of Morris, afforded us a fresh confirmation of the truth of the saying, that England is the promised land of lawyers. The walls of some houses, instead of being overgrown with ivy, were covered with the finest roses from top to bottom; and a more delightful appearance, than walls thus covered have within the walls of a town, can hardly be conceived. The church itself is half ancient, half modern. It has a nave,

and two side aisles; of which the northern is entirely in the Saxon style, and supported by four low clumsy round pillars; above which run two galleries, one with *single* and the other with *double* arches. The upper row of the arches opens towards the nave. The southern aisle on the other hand is separated from the nave by a row of four pillars of the Tuscan order, which have evidently been erected in modern times.* The western side is very ancient, especially the church steeple, the lower part of which is built in the pure Saxon style. The entrance beneath it, is most admirably ornamented. The porch is supported by three pillars, their capitals being full of festoons, animals, and similar ornaments. The organ is large, and said to be very good. We regret that we cannot speak so favourably of the altar-piece, a bad copy from Rubens. A small Gothic chapel at a little distance from the church, is used as a school. It is very plain, and extremely well adapted for a school, as it forms only one large room.

A new road has been cut through a mountain from Leominster to Hereford. The soil is here of a reddish clayey colour, such as we had not before seen in this part of the country. From the top of the hill there is a beautiful and extensive prospect over a great part of this fruitful and well cultivated

* They were built after the great fire in 1700, which destroyed a considerable part of the edifice.

country, the character of which bears a striking resemblance to that of the north of Germany; and five or six villages, one of them having a pretty large Gothic church, are distinctly seen at various distances. We were particularly struck on the road by the sight of an old house, which although built quite in the castellated style, had not, however, the appearance of a castle, but of a dwelling-house of the fifteenth century. We could not learn the name of this remarkable villa, but probably it was Hampton Court, formerly the seat of the Earl of Essex.* A number of other country seats, in the modern taste, usually of three stories in height, and built of red brick, with pretty gardens in front, beautify the sides of the road all the way to Hereford; and rows of apple-trees around the houses and in the gardens along the road, told us that we were now in a cyder country.†

The chief town of Herefordshire has a striking appearance at a distance, from the towering steeples of its churches. The environs are beautiful, but the place itself has nothing remarkable in its architecture. At the City Arms' inn, which resembles a palace, we were shown into a large and

* See Nicholson, p. 690.

† This favourite beverage of the lower classes of a great part of the middle of England, must be more agreeable to the English than the German taste; for we could not relish even the cyder made in Hereford on account of its acidity.

rather unpleasant apartment, as our sitting-room, which though more splendid was not a whit the more agreeable, from its containing the portrait of the Rev. William Allen, president of the New Inn club.

Our first visit was to the cathedral; its date reaches back to the eleventh century, but it has very lately, under the directions of Mr. Wyatt, undergone so many alterations, particularly on the north side, that the traces of the ancient structure can with difficulty be perceived. The whole forms a cross, with double cross aisles, a longer and a shorter towards the east end. The latter includes St. Mary's chapel, now fitted up as a library, and lighted by a very singular large window, formed into several divisions by masonry. We could very distinctly perceive fragments of painted glass in it; and a beautiful ceiling, finely ornamented, and painted blue, over the high grating, which separates the library from the rest of the chapel. The lesser cross aisle has a handsome large window towards the north. Close beside this window projects a small private chapel, with a ceiling very artificially ornamented, and a round tower near to it, which has probably been erected in modern times. The northern part of the larger cross aisle is occupied by the parish church of St. John. The nave of the church, or rather the west end, is built quite in the Saxon style. We enter it through a sort of porch on the north side of the cathedral, in the same line

with the parish church, and decorated with two pentagonal towers at the corners. The principal entrance on the eastern side is modern, although executed by Wyatt in a good style, and quite in the character of the old building.* The nave itself produces an excellent effect, although the arches which separate it from the side aisles would have conveyed a more powerful impression if they had been higher. Over the aisles runs a gallery, with a range of windows above it, through which the light falls into the nave. The arches are richly adorned with beautiful carved ornaments, of that richness which we only find in the Saxon architecture. Very few remains of painted glass are to be found here; all that I discovered were in a side aisle on the right side of the entrance into the cathedral. The nave however has been every thing but improved by modern ornaments. Among these injurious ornaments I particularly include the oval apertures in the walls in the middle of the cathedral and under the steeple, where the roof is supported by two large quadrangular pillars. Between the two cross aisles two large Saxon pillars have also been erected on each side under the arches of which stand monuments. The choir is separated from the library by a Gothic screen. The greater part of the monuments in the church, of which there is no deficiency, are

* See the beautiful plate of this cathedral, engraved by R. Reeves, from a drawing by J. Buckler.

erected to the memory of bishops and abbots, and possess little interest. The church was full of workmen, who were raising a scaffolding in the choir for erecting the orchestra, destined for the music at a grand musical festival which is usually celebrated every two or three years in most of the counties in England. Mr. C. F. Cramer was to lead the band; Miss Stevens, and Mr. Bartleman, the favourite singer for church music, were to be the vocal performers. A large music-room has been built close to the church, and connected with it by a covered walk, to serve for rehearsals during the time of the festivals, and for a school at other times.

Besides the cathedral, there are several parish churches in Hereford, among which, All Saints is remarkable for its high pointed spire; and St. Peter's for the neatness of its interior arrangements. The new court-house promises to become a noble edifice; it is built entirely of sand-stone; and the portico, of which we saw the foundation laid, will have a very fine appearance when completed, and when the old houses standing opposite to it are pulled down, admitting a view into the street. In the east end stands the alms'-house, dedicated to St. Ethelbert, a plain building, of a single story, having a very pleasing appearance, which is increased by the garden running along the back of it. Of this every man on the charity has a piece allotted him for his own cultivation. At the end of it, a thoroughfare leads to

what is called the Castle-Green, the public promenade, an irregular square, bounded on the one side by the river Wye, on which the town lies.

Around this promenade runs a terrace planted above and below with a row of large and beautiful trees, between which we proceed on a level path laid with gravel. A pavillion has been erected close to the banks of the river, from which we look down on the old stone bridge over the stream, which is at no great distance from it; but the pavillion itself begins to fall into decay. Four iron guns, two four-pounders and two long six-pounders, pointed towards the river, for salutes on particular occasions, are planted on a place constructed for their reception on the Hereford side of the river. The centre of this place is adorned with a monument surrounded by rails, erected in honour of Nelson, and close to it stands a fifth cannon, which is likewise of iron. By prolonging the walk in that part of the promenade towards the river, we come to the hospital for the sick and lunatics, an extensive building surrounded by a wall, in a very beautiful situation. The above-mentioned bridge across the Wye, has six arches, and was built towards the end of the fifteenth century. Five of its arches are evidently old; the sixth appears to have been built at a later period, of which it bears all the marks.*

* It was rebuilt after the siege of 1645, when it was destroyed to prevent the approach of the Scottish army.

From Hereford the road leads to Monmouth. The country is extremely flat, and possesses little attraction; but a certain degree of variety is afforded by several beautiful country seats. Not far from the little village of St. Weonard, stands Mr. Abraham Whitaker's house, which is distinguished from many others by its forming a right angle towards the road; the shorter side, facing the road, being ornamented with a portico, and the longer, which is properly the front, runs down the garden, and has a superb hothouse at its extremity. Before reaching the town we come to the new county goal, which stands on the right side of the road, and as usual displays all the splendour of architecture. It is built in the castellated style, so that it has somewhat the appearance of a fort erected for the defence of the place; it does not, however, appear to be quite complete. The town has several very handsome streets, and although it carries on little or no trade, a certain degree of affluence seems to prevail among the inhabitants. We alighted at the first inn in the place, the Beaufort Arms, where we found workmen employed in enlarging a house (already of good size), by the addition of a new wing. The second inn, the King's Head, in the market-place, has also a splendid appearance. Among the public edifices at Monmouth, we observed none worthy of particular notice excepting the new town-hall, likewise situated in the market-place, and built in the modern taste, with a

great many windows, and two stories in height, the lower of which is ornamented with arcades. It would have been improved by the absence of a very indifferently executed statute of Henry V.* which is placed in a niche in the front. The bridge over the Wye, which here unites with the Munnow, is of stone, and probably very old, as the gate at the end of it is the only one now remaining of four, which once formed the entrances to the strongly fortified town of Monmouth. St. Thomas's, a small church of very singular architecture, probably of the old Saxon times, stands close to the bridge. To the north of the town there is a pretty high hill, [illegible]ly covered with trees, called the *Kymin*, which, when we stand on the bridge, rises very picturesquely before us in the distance. A convenient road has been formed to the top of it, terminating in a tower-like pavillion of two stories in height, from which it is said there is a most excellent prospect. It was erected for the reception of pedestrians, and is much frequented by the inhabitants of Monmouth, who enjoy themselves on Sundays in the little wood, called Beaulieu grove, which surrounds it. The road, which had been very rough on our way to Monmouth, was said by our landlady to be still worse beyond it, so that the stage to Chepstow could not be performed with less than four horses. We were therefore under the necessity

* He was born here, and thence called Henry of Monmouth.

of submitting to this augmentation of our expense, which we indeed subsequently found was unavoidable, particularly as we had resolved to make an excursion to Tintern Abbey, Piercefield, &c.

Close behind Monmouth, the road ascends a hill, passing Troy-House, the seat of one of the branches of the great Herbert family, a square building of very ancient appearance, although we were told, the Gothic portal at the entrance is the only remaining part of the original edifice. There are many other country houses, among which the beautiful Leidet-House stand distinguished in this neighbourhood. As soon we reach the top of the hill, a matchless prospect opens on us, the beauty of which consists principally in its extent and variety.

In the vale beneath lies Monmouth, extending along the banks of the Wye, and half concealed among trees. In the distance are seen the blue mountains of Brecknockshire, which bound Monmouthshire to the north-west, whilst in the plain around the town appears an endless succession of enclosures, separated from each other by hedges and hedge-rows, varied by every gradation of colour, from fallow, pasture, or cultivation, and forming a magnificent carpet spread out beneath us. A few miles farther, the road ascends a second hill, not less steep than the former, and when we come opposite to an elegant little country house, two stories high, with three windows, painted yellow, we turn off by a by-road

to Tintern Abbey. This road is lined on each side by high garden hedges, and is so narrow, that one carriage only can pass through it at a time, consequently the carriage of another party which we met on our return, was obliged to be driven back by the horses to a spot rather more open than the rest of the way.*

From time to time we have an uninterrupted view towards the Wye and Chepstow, which is the more grateful from the length of time we are confined between these verdant walls.

When within about two miles of the abbey we alighted, and resolved to complete our journey on foot. The abbey is situated in the village of the same name the banks of the Wye, which consists of only a few houses of a pretty old appearance, that for the most part have been built of materials obtained from the abbey, or at least repaired with them; for even the front of an ancient chapel has been manufactured into that of a dwelling house. These celebrated ruins have been so often described, that I have no need of expatiating largely on the subject. The chief part of the remains consists of the church, a large roofless Gothic building, the extent of which proves the former importance of the abbey. From the same cause we may account for the surprise felt on viewing the

* This was effected without much difficulty, as the meeting took place not far from the entrance into the road, but how it is contrived when such meeting takes place further in I cannot well conceive.

whole of the longest side, two stories, fronting the village, entirely covered with a green carpeting of ivy from top to bottom, in which the windows appeared like a wove-in pattern. Equally beautiful, although in another way, is the view of the narrow or western side with its large window around the interior carved work of which the ivy luxuriantly climbs, leaving only uncovered the upper volutes and flowers which run into each other at the top. The entrance itself is formed by a large arched door, divided into two by a slender pillar in the middle. Close to this entrance two false half arches project from the wall.* The view of the interior is most striking. Here also the whole is overgrown with ivy; on the right three large pillars are yet standing, and in the back ground the cross aisle and the shorter end of the cross still remain in all their majesty, with their arches and passages, pillars and windows. The proportions of this building are unusually large, the length of the nave and choir being 230 feet, the width thirty-three, and the length of the cross-aisle 160 feet.† Of the four windows, we are most struck

* See the beautiful views taken from various points, in the eighth volume of the Antiquarian Cabinet, and a large coloured print by P. Jukes, representing the side of the abbey which we have just been describing.

† Such is the measurement given in the Antiquarian Cabinet; but in the description which we bought at Monmouth, the statement is different (viz. length 228 feet,

by that on the west side, which has been before described, and the east window opposite to it; the latter, on account of its heighth and width (it includes the whole nave) and still more from the singular circumstance, that while all the decorations of the window are destroyed, the slender pillar still remains by which it is separated into two divisions, and which seems to be suspended in the air, at a height of not less than fifty feet. The end windows of the cross aisle are not so well preserved; the northern one being half filled up by the roof of a building, which once stood before it, whilst the southern has been bereft of all its interior ornament, exhibiting nothing but a large opening. The foundations of the fallen pillars are still remaining undestroyed, so that we knew exactly the place occupied by each; and those which still remain appear capable of bidding defiance to time for centuries to come. The arches of the centre on which the steeple rested, and of which the strong piers still remain firm, have a peculiarly majestic appearance, though they now appear only in masses. Some peculiarities in the architecture of these curious remains must not be overlooked. For instance, the windows on the side to

breadth thirty-three; length of the cross aisle 133 feet); and again different in Nicholson (length 218 feet, breadth thirty-three; length of the cross aisle 150 feet). It might be worth while to procure a new and accurate measurement of this church.

the right of the entrance are of equal height with those beyond the centre in the shorter cross aisle, which is not the case with those on the left, they being only half the height of the others. This produces a very peculiar effect. Moreover in the cross aisle pillars are only to be found on the eastern side, the western side appearing to have been without them. In their stead there is a double row of windows.* The ivy which every where twines round the pillars, is nobly contrasted by the green sod with which the whole of the ground of the interior of the church is covered, as with a carpet, and on which lie fragments of capitals, ornaments, &c., scattered about in picturesque disorder. Among these the body of the statue of a knight, who is laying his hand on his shield, is pretty well preserved. Here and there only the beautifully ornamented ancient pavement peeps out under the grass; and we may form some idea of the depth of the floor beneath the present surface, from the pedestal of a statue on the left of the entrance, which appears to have been cleared out for the purpose of ascertaining this point.

Near to the church are the ruins of other buildings. The refectory, a large hall, is still in pretty good preservation, but was kept shut by the present possessor, so that we could not obtain an accurat view of it: Even the vaulted cellars are still fit for use. The walk down to the Wye, which at a short

* See the views in the Antiquarian Cabinet.

distance from the abbey winds through the sequestered vale in which it lies, is highly delightful. It is scarcely possible to find a more still and secluded little spot. Here we have the smooth and transparent river gliding in front; on the opposite side are hills, clothed to the very top with thick underwood of every variety of colour, which extend further to the right and left; behind us again we have wood, through which the white walls and airy forms of the ruins of the abbey rise above the trees; and we hear at a distance the sound of the hammer of a wire manufactory: all these form a whole, unequalled perhaps for picturesque beauty in any other part of England. The whole of the surrounding country belongs to the Duke of Beaufort.

We left the abbey by the same road that had brought us to it, and as soon as we got beyond the hedges, entered a road to the left, leading to Piercefield, in the neighbourhood of Tintern, a place usually visited by those who come to the abbey. Piercefield is a superb villa, with a very extensive park; it has frequently changed its owners in the course of a few years, and is now the property of Sir Nathaniel Wells, who allows the public the gratification of viewing and roaming about his park every Tuesday and Friday. The house itself is not shown, but it is said to contain nothing remarkable, excepting some Gobelin tapestry, which formerly belonged to Louis XVI. Its situation is uncommonly well chosen,

being built on a gentle ascent, with a large lawn in front, to which there is an entrance by a magnificent gate, with two large stone lions on its pillars. There is another gate, ornamented with vases, on the same line nearer to the abbey. We enter the park through a side gate (visitors not being allowed to drive up to the great entrance-gate), and proceed along a walk which runs round it, and which enables us to view the most beautiful part of it. The park is bounded by a steep declivity, along which we proceed, and we then have an extensive view over the surrounding country, through which the Wye winds. This view would, however, have appeared infinitely more beautiful than it actually did to us, if the Wye had not then been unusually shallow in consequence of the ebb, so that the whole picture lost its keeping. The view of the Bangor rocks, which tower up from the opposite side of the river like a wall, and at the foot of which the stream winds along, passing in its course several neat villages picturesquely scattered between it and the rocks, produced, however, a striking effect. Returning through the park, we perceive Wynd-Cliff; a low hill, completely covered with firs rising between the bare rocky steeps, as we approach, an over-hanging cliff, whence we look down into a tremendous abyss, at sight of which the head turns giddy. The view of this precipice sufficiently explains why it has been called the Lover's Leap, from a resemblance to

celebrated places of antiquity. The Giant's Cave has a very picturesque appearance from a colossal figure of Polyphemus placed over the entrance, which reminds us of the Odyssey. The double prospect we here enjoy, namely, that of the Ravine, and of Chepstow, at the same time, is peculiarly striking, especially from the high cultivation of the vicinity of Chepstow. We found the *grotto* full of gay ladies and gentlemen, and could not therefore examine its interior. The Druid's Temple is not a successful imitation, as the blocks of granite, intended to convey the resemblance, are disposed too regularly on both sides of the place. The opposite town of Chepstow, and particularly the castle, with its half-ruined towers, has a very good appearance from the alcoves. The park upon the whole seems to be neglected by its present proprietor; the walks are in various places choked up with weeds and bushes, and every where covered with large stones; so that when passing along them we seem as on a bad country road. The outer and inner park contain together 214 English acres. The house consists of three stories, but the third seems to have been built after the original erection, and gives a very clumsy appearance to the whole. A semi-circular portico of four columns adorns the entrance. Two temples, one on each side, form the side wings, in a line with the main building, and gave it rather a heavy appearance, so that the building only appears

agreeable when standing at the park gate, at a considerable distance from it.

From Piercefield the road leads straight to Chepstow, which is only three miles from it. From the first view of this town we perceive that favoured by its situation at the entrance of the Wye into the sea, it has risen by commerce.* Numerous handsome and well filled shops are every where to be seen. No expence appears to have been spared in the erection of the public edifices; and the private houses are distinguished by their neatness and solidity. It has a peculiar appearance from nearly all of the houses, being at some distance from the line of the street, the intervening space being filled with beautiful gardens, in which fruit trees and flowers, agreeably intermixed, seem to thrive delightfully. The town-house is an elegant building, and the assembly-room and corn exchange are no ways inferior to it in point of architectural grandeur. But the attention is principally attracted to the ruins of the castle, which, as already observed, form a principal object in the view of Chepstow from Piercefield. In as good preservation as the castle of Caernarvon, and formerly on account of its being similarly situated in the vicinity of the sea, possessing equal strength, it derives superior consequence from its greater extent. It has

* Cappers's Topographical Dictionary of the United Kingdom.—Article, *Chepstow.*

four courts; five or six large towers* are still in tolerable preservation; and the outer walls of the chapel, which is two stories in height, and which was once very magnificent, are still entire. The great hall is now used as a green house, and such of the rooms as are still tenantable are let out. We had not leisure to view the interior. The appearance of the exterior, especially from the new bridge, is particularly striking, from the ruins appearing to form one mass with the rock on which they stand, both being covered from top to bottom with a mantle of ivy, beautifully reflected in the river on which the castle stands. The bridge, formerly of wood, has lately been succeeded by iron arches, which from their lightness and neatness, prove the great progress made in the casting of iron in England, since the bridge at Colebrooke-dale was constructed. The iron rails are particularly handsome. The five piers of the arches are of a fine grained white sand-stone, and of an oblongish round form. We found the workmen employed in pulling down the old piers still remaining between them. The centre arch is the

* Among these, the attention is particularly directed to that in which was confined Henry Martin, one of the most dteermined opponents of Charles I. He contributed essentially to the fatal end of that monarch, who on account of his manly behaviour in the restoration of Charles II., acquired universal esteem. He was confined here a prisoner for twenty years.

largest, the others diminish in span towards the banks.

There is a very beautiful view of the town from a hill on the eastern side of the Wye, along which the road runs to the Old Passage, or Beachly. The distance betwee nthe two banks of the Severn, which here enters the sea, is less at this passage than at the new one, which is further down the river, where it is three miles broad. Here the breadth is only a mile and a quarter. We alighted at the passage-house, where we met with a very good reception, and were shown into a handsome and spacious room, from the three windows of which that approached each other, projected in the manner of a balcony, and together formed what is called a bow window, we had an excellent view of the Severn and its immediate banks. A handsome arched room, in the form of a tent, in the second story, and above that occupied by us, commanded a still more extensive prospect. Unfortunately the banks of this river are less picturesque towards its mouth than higher up, where they are much visited exclusively on account of their beauty, by numbers of tourists.

The morning as usual was rather heavy. Previous to our departure, the very obliging waiter of this inn conducted me along the banks to the ruins of the ancient chapel of St. Thecla, situated on a rock in the sea, where the Wye flows into the Severn. We had however chosen our time very ill, for the ad-

vancing tide permitted us only to have a distant view of the ruins from the light-house, where a seaman is constantly kept on the look out. With the assistance of his telescope I could distinctly see the rock, and at the same time I discovered that we did not lose much in not having a nearer view. On our return the high tide obliged us to clamber over the rocks along the shore, by no means the most agreeable promenade in the world.

At half-past nine o'clock in the morning we left the ferry-house, and as the wind was favourable, in about a quarter of an hour landed on the opposite bank. The passage here, as at all similar places in England, is effected in small boats, and not as with us in large ferry-boats, which sometimes is attended with the disagreeable circumstance, that from the smallness of the boat, the passenger comes into very close contact with unruly horses, cattle, &c. The charge for the passage is fixed, and a table of rates is hung up at the ferry-house.

Opposite to Beachly Passage stands Aust Passage, a solitary inn, with excellent arrangements, where horses are kept for posting. We were informed that on account of the rocks which here stretch out into the sea, the landing is attended with greater difficulty and danger in stormy weather, than at the New Passage further south; but on the other hand the reception to be met with at the old, or Aust Passage-house, is generally allowed to be better. The road to Bristol

leads first through Westbury, a pretty large village, near which there are some beautiful villas, inhabited by rich citizens of Bristol. Towards Henbury, which is likewise a very pretty village, the number of villas of every description of form and appearance, continue to increase, and announce the vicinity of a large town. On a hill at a distance appears Blaize Castle, the house of Mr. Farr, a merchant of Bristol, which is built in the castellated style, so much in vogue in England.

Nothing can be conceived more agreeable and inviting than the environs of Bristol, which pleasingly remind the German traveller of his native country, from their striking similarity to those of some of its large towns.

We enter Bristol by a beautiful quadruple alley of limes, the rows of which are at a considerable distance from each other, and the view is every instant interrupted by country seats, with small parks and gardens before and behind them, and surrounded with elegant balustrades. Thus while we imagine we are yet in the country, we imperceptibly enter the town, and find only from the uninterrupted rows of houses and the stone pavement, that we are in Bristol itself.

CHAP. V.

Bristol—The Cathedral—Eliza Draper's Monument—The Abbey Gate—Berkeley Square—Clifton—The Crescents—The Roman Camp—Clifton Down—Mangeon's Hotel—The Hot Wells—The Pump Room—Walks on the River Side—The Quaker's Chapel—Spring Hill—Squire Tindal's House—King Square—Queen Square—Statue of William III.—Church of St. Mary-Redcliffe—Hogarth's Altar Piece—Monuments—The Library—Mr. Johnson's Collection of Fossil Bones—Dr. R. Johnson—Mr. Hare's Floor Cloth Manufactory—The Phœnix Glass Works—The Fair—Buonaparte's Travelling Carriage.

THE approach to the more ancient part of Bristol, as we proceed down Park-street, has a very peculiar appearance. This street is built on the slope of a pretty high hill, so that the descending line of the roofs is very perceptible whilst the eye dwells on the fronts of the houses which are all of one colour. The streets which run off at right angles to the right and left contribute to strengthen the impression, and we are not displeased when we at last reach the bottom of the hill.

We found the Bush Inn, which had been recommended to us as the best,* nearly filled with strangers, principally attracted by the fair, which was to commence on the following day. The narrow street in which the inn is situated, was filled with a bustling crowd, and the old-fashioned, scattered, and inconvenient arrangement of the interior of the house, afforded us very little satisfaction, when we wished to retire from the noise without. We therefore hastened to commence our perambulations through the city, and repaired first to the cathedral, which in passing had appeared to us a very distinguished building. It occupies one of the four sides of College-Green, a beautiful square piece of ground, planted with lime-trees, and enclosed with a rail, which is surrounded by well-built houses on the other three sides, and serves as a pleasant walk for the inhabitants. The cathedral itself, which was built in the twelfth century, is a valuable monument of Gothic architecture, and by no means diminutive in its proportions. The length is 175 feet; the cross

* I am very sorry I cannot subscribe to this character, and I would advise every one to select Reeve's Hotel, situated in a very pleasant and quiet part of the town, near the College Green; whilst Corn-Street, in which the Bush Inn is situated, is the centre of the trade and bustle of Bristol, the inn being directly opposite to the Exchange, and most of the adjoining houses are fitted up as counting houses, for merchants.

aisles are 128 feet in breath; the church, properly so called, is 73 feet in length, and the height of the steeple 140 feet. The interior has latterly been coated over, the pillars and prominent parts of the walls, &c. with a yellow colour, and the rest with white. Some remains of old paintings on glass are still to be seen in the windows. Among the monuments, there are several which, from the persons to whom they are dedicated, are highly interesting. That erected to Eliza Draper is of this description. This celebrated woman, the friend of Lawrence Sterne, so well known under the name of Yorick, here ended her life. Both her own figure and that of the genius standing beside her, are admirably executed, and do great honour to the chisel of the sculptor, Bacon, who is still living. The wife of Mason the poet is also buried here, and verses composed by her husband, adorn her monument. Mary Robinson, well known as one of the best English novel writers, has also her resting-place here. The monuments of the earlier bishops, which are in the walls of the side aisles, have canopied niches above them, richly adorned, and ornamented with roses around the projecting corners, whereas monuments of this kind, in other cathedrals, are generally very simple. The bishop's seat in the choir, is as rich as those of his brethren of the sees of Durham, Gloucester, and Worcester. The organ seems to be excellent, and the lecturer's desk is not inferior to that of York,

in external splendour. We were very sorry to find the left side aisle closed, because to judge from the style of architecture, it appears to be the most ancient part of the church. Close to the cathedral stands the bishop's mansion, a modern building of one story, of a smoky appearance. The noble arched gate, called the abbey-gate, by which we enter the court where this mansion is situated, forms a strong contrast to it. This gate is built in the richest Saxon style,* and ornamented with four stone figures, placed in niches on each side. There are covered walks all round the court. A little gate leads into a very small garden, from which we have a view of the back part of the cathedral, and the sacristy, with their half-ruined towers.

Our walk led us from the cathedral to the new part of the town, through which we had passed on our entrance, to Berkley-square. It is surrounded by handsome houses; and the grass-plat, which occupies its centre, is, contrary to the London fashion, unenclosed. We next came to York-place, a row of houses uniform in their structure, three stories in height, and ascend by a stair to the back part of them, which like the front, is surrounded by iron rails. Here again we had an opportunity of admiring the uncommon cleanliness with which the spaces in

* See a good view of it in the first volume of *Antient Reliques*, or Delineations of Monastic, Castellated, and Domestic Architecture.—London, 1812. 8vo.

front of all houses are kept in England. From the front of these houses (the railing of which we accidently found open, and which also forms a terrace of mason-work), there is a fine view over the city. We next descended into the park, which runs to Clifton, a beautiful village, connected with Bristol, situated on a hill to the north of the city, and which, from its delightful situation, its salubrious air, the distance from all noise and bustle, and the vicinity to the bath, is resorted to by persons from all parts of England. Here likewise, as in most other bathing-places in England,* a number of houses are built together, so as to form half moons or crescents, as they are called. Of these crescents there are at least half a dozen, distinguished from each other by various names. The most considerable are the Royal York, and Lower Crescents. The Prince of Wales's Crescent to the westward of these, and bending outwardly whilst the other bend inwardly, is of small extent, and enjoys by no means the same celebrity in the descriptions of tourists. The appearance of the Royal York Crescent, even when compared with the more superb structures of the same kind at Bath, must still be considered as striking. Two high flights of stone steps, with iron rails on each side, lead up to [illegible] Here we find ourselves on a level surface of from forty to fifty feet in breadth, paved with large flags, enclosed on one side with ballus-

* See the account of Cheltenham, vol. I. p. 43.

trades, and on the other by the houses themselves. All the houses are built on one plan. A balcony, with a roof painted green and black, called a *veranda*, runs along the second story of all of them; the windows, which are high and large, are of most beautiful plate glass, through which we see the scarlet curtains, and the elegant interior arrangement of the rooms. The white stone steps before the houses are kept clean with the utmost degree of care. The houses are from two to three windows in breadth. This crescent has altogether an appearance which at once delights and surprises us. The view over the Avon and Bristol, spread out before us in the vale below, is truly noble, and in enjoying it we are disposed to forget the unfinished state of several houses in the Lower Crescent, beneath York Crescent, which must have remained a considerable time in that condition, as their walls are overgrown with grass.*

On leaving the crescent, we ascended the top of the hill, on which are the ruins of what is called the Roman Camp. These ruins consist merely of a single round Gothic tower, without roof, or any internal walls, with some trenches round it, the traces of which are now scarcely discernible. From the edge of the hill, we have a view of the valley of the Avon, spread out beneath us with the river flowing gently through the middle of it. To the right the rocks

* This is also the case with some houses in the Upper Crescent.

tower up, where, from the reports of blasts of gunpowder heard from time to time, it appeared that persons were busily employed in blowing them up. Traces of these operations are more distinctly seen when we proceed past the rocks by the river side.

Descending the eastern side of the hill, we enter upon Clifton Down, or the lower part of it; and here we find ourselves as if in a new town. Sion-row, Gloucester-place,* and several other well-built streets, embellish this part of Clifton by the neatness of their appearance; but the Mall is pre-eminent above all the others. This place, is surrounded by buildings on three sides only, and is ornamented in the centre with a beautiful grass-plat of an oval form, enclosed by a sunk fence. The row on the northern and southern sides are private houses, but the whole of the eastern side is occupied by Mangeon's splendid hotel, where all the public amusements for the visitors at Clifton take place. It consists of a central building of five windows, adorned with Ionic pilasters, and an attica, and two side buildings, each of which

* In Gloucester-place is the house of Sir Wm. Draper, so well known on account of The Letters of Junius, and his Answers to them. There are two stone monuments on each side of the house within the railing in front of it. The one to the right is erected in honour of the elder Pitt, and consists of a stone obelisk, with an inscription. The other is a quadrangular stone cenotaph to the memory of the soldiers of the 76th English regiment, who fell in the East Indies at Madras, Arcot, Pondicherry, and Manilla.

has a straight projection with two windows, and a semi-circular one with three, between which are connecting buildings, of only one window, with high flights of steps leading to them from the street. The whole of these buildings are of three stories. The rooms are handsomely, nay almost splendidly furnished, the attendance prompt, and the fare exceedingly good; but the charges are very high.

Our second walk was to the Bath, or as it is called, Bristol Hot-Wells, which has been too often described for me to hope that I can say any thing new on the subject. The water is drawn from a spring, about twenty-six feet below the level of the Avon, by means of a steam-engine. Its temperature is from seventy-two to seventy-six degrees of Fahrenheit, and is said to be of a peculiarly emollient nature. The way to the bath runs through a very pleasant tract on the other side of the Avon, which separates Clifton from Bristol, and particularly through Avon-street and Dowry-square (abounding with handsome houses), to St. Vincent's Parade, a beautiful double alley of trees, extending along the banks of the Avon to the colonnade. This is a semi-circular wooden building of one story, with a colonnade in front which contains shops for exhibiting the goods of the numerous venders, who usually frequent the place in the bathing season. We visited it on a Sunday, and therefore could form no very

favourable opinion of the building itself, which on other days no doubt has a better appearance from the splendour of the goods exposed in it. The room where the spring-water is distributed, is close to the river, of which we have a pleasant view from the windows, and its walls are covered on all sides with advertisements, notices of balls, and concerts, &c. As at Cheltenham, the water is served out by a female, who is very attentive to the visitors.

We passed through the pump-room, and through the house itself, which is built over the spring, into the open air, and then found ourselves at the foot of the chalk rocks, which here rise from the river, and to which I have already alluded. The walk that has been formed between them and the river, by the aid of gun-powder, is one of the handsomest about Bristol, and from having always in sight the opposite bank of the river, which is high and well wooded, possesses a peculiar charm. The two last-built rows of houses, called the New Hot-Wells, and the Windsor Crescent are at a short distance from it. The height of the rock on which the houses of New Hot-Wells stand, causes almost a giddiness in looking up to them; for the part nearest to the river, is certainly more than sixty feet above its surface.

We saw the city itself, as I have already observed, on a Sunday, when the general repose which pre-

vails on this day in England, deprives every thing animate or inanimate of a great part of its character. Nothing was to be perceived of that bustle on the water which in a sea-port of such consequence as Bristol must necessarily exist on week-days: neither did it seem to me that the number of shipping could be compared to that I saw at Liverpool. All of them, however, had their flags flying, including a Spanish and a Swedish vessel in the harbour.

On our way along the river we came to a quaker's chapel, or meeting-house, as it is called, of uncommon simplicity of form, with which we were much pleased. It was a square room lighted from above by a square dome, and the ceiling was supported by several strong wooden columns, round which run iron rings, where lamps are probably fixed for evening service. Not the least trace of any other decoration was to be seen; and the seats and columns were painted alike in oil-colours. An adjoining school-house no doubt owed its foundation to this benevolent sect. Colston's Hospital, not far from the meeting-house, occupies a kind of street without an outlet; at the bottom of which the statue of the founder is placed, in a somewhat grotesque costume. The county jail for Gloucestershire, a gloomy looking building, lies a few hundred paces to the east of it. The connexion of this part of the town with the centre, is effected by a stone bridge thrown over the

Avon, which was built in the year 1768: it has three very high and wide arches, and a stone balustrade of about seven feet in height. The foot-paths on both sides are separated from the carriage-road by iron chains.*

The north-eastern part of the town, to which we now shaped our course, is pretty regularly built; and Portland-square, with St. Paul's church adjoining it, a beautiful modern structure, have a very agreeable appearance. Even in this part of the town, the ground is uneven; and behind the square the houses are seen rising above each other in the form of a terrace. Spring-Hill (built in 1783) stands here; and a rather steep, but convenient flight of steps leads through several rows of houses to the uppermost, which, like the rest, is quite straight. Striking into a road leading to the right we come to a large place belonging to Squire Tindal, consisting of a spacious park, with a magnificent dwelling-house in its centre, of three stories, which if it were in London, would not disgrace even Pall-Mall or Piccadilly. As no person appeared, we surveyed the parts around the house without being disturbed; and would wil-

* In the vicinity of this bridge I saw tea publicly made and sold in the open street, a thing which I do not remember having seen in any other town in England. The price of a cup of tea is a halfpenny, and the cost of bread and butter is one penny.

lingly have examined more closely a high tower which we saw in the park, had we not been apprehensive of some abuse from the servants of the house. Crossing King's-square, which is a handsome place, surrounded with trees, and through which there is likewise a free passage, we come to King's-down and St. James's-place, where a row of gardens extend before the houses, and form the entrance to them. By a number of cross streets and lanes, and stairs of all descriptions, we at length reached our inn.

Queen's-square, the largest of all the squares in Bristol, is situated in the western part of the town. Large houses, resembling palaces, among which the town-house is distinguished by its front, surround it on all sides; and a row of lofty lime trees separate the houses from the square, properly so called. In the centre of the square, where four gravel walks, cut through the grass, meet, stands a marble statue of King William III., on horseback, by Rysbraeck, the position of which is very similar to that of the Great Elector on the long bridge at Berlin, but in point of execution it is much inferior to it. Not far from this square we cross the Avon by a moveable bridge. In order to facilitate the communication with the country, there are also two immoveable iron bridges over the Avon in this quarter, which to appearance are of the same span,* exceedingly well cast, and combining strength with elegance.

* This may be from thirty to thirty-five feet.

Besides the cathedral, there is another church at Bristol, celebrated for its high antiquity, called St. Mary Redcliffe.* The date of its erection is stated to be in the year 1294, and it has received its name from the red sand hill on which it stands. This situation heightens exceedingly the picturesque appearance of this venerable edifice. A broad and magnificent flight of steps leads to the ground on a level with the church or Redcliffe-terrace, and affords a station from which we can overlook a considerable part of the town, and more particularly the extensive Redcliffe-parade, which leads to the church.

The steeple, which is 148 feet in height, is at the western end of the building, and is distinguished from most other English churches, by being divided into two stories, the uppermost terminates in an octagon, round which are four small pointed turrets. The interior of the church has a very neat coating of white and yellow, which adds greatly to the effect of the rich ornaments, especially those on the ceiling. The variety of these ornaments, particularly in the side aisles where the ceiling between every two arches is ornamented in a different manner, is quite astonishing. The organ stands at the entrance of the church, on an elevation supported very

* The reader will find a more full and satisfactory account of this church, and views of its exterior and interior, in J. Britton's Historical and Architectural Essay relating to Redcliffe Church.—Bristol, 1813, 4to.

heterogeneously by Corinthian pillars. The altar is ornamented with three pictures, one above it, and the other two on each side of it, which were painted by Hogarth, so celebrated for his works in another department of painting.* They represent incidents in the life of our Saviour, and are executed in so tolerable a manner, particularly the one above the altar, that on seeing them, we are almost inclined to treat the remark concerning this painter, which has been so often repeated, of his having in vain attempted to paint a serious historical picture, as a mere fable. The colouring at least is not amiss, although the drawing is very incorrect. Below the middle picture, and immediately above the altar there is a painting by Mr. Tresham, an artist, who is still living, representing Christ curing the man possessed with a devil. The drawing is not amiss, but the colouring is very feeble. Among the monuments, that of William Canninge, the founder of the church, who had been five times mayor of the city, is deserving of attention on account of the singularity of the idea of having himself represented in a double character, first as a magistrate with his wife, and then as a monk, which he became at a later period of his life. His cook was also buried here, not far from him; and the insignia of that employment, the carving knife and skimming ladle, carved on his grave

* Who does not know his caricatures?

stone, leave no doubt as to the person who lies beneath."

I went with some friends to see the public library of Bristol, which had been described to us as a very good collection. This building is in King-street, the street in which the theatre stands. The theatre, in its exterior appearance scarcely differs from a private house, unless the paltry wooden columns, which support a covered walk in the lower story, be considered as something extraordinary. The library consists of a main building, and two side wings advancing towards the street, both of two stories, and is separated into two divisions; one of them (the most ancient part, was founded as early as the reign of James II.) the other contains the books that have been more recently collected; the subscriptions for which commenced in the year 1770. The old library contains many good old scientific English authors, as also some Italian books. The new one contains not only scientific authors, but also books of entertainment. I also found in it some splendid works, such as the *Voyage de Choiseul-Gouffier*, and the Ionian Antiquities, handsomely bound. The two libraries are subject to different regulations; the books in the old must be used only on the spot, but the modern books are lent out, and a register kept of those so lent out, as in our German libraries. The large library-room, in which voyages and travels and modern literature in general are arranged, contains a clock,

and is divided by a gallery into two rooms; there is also a third room fitted up in a very elegant manner.

A catalogue of the new library appeared in print in the year 1814. The upper librarian must always be a master of arts of the University of Oxford. We were shown the library by the sub-librarian who resides in it.

The same friend who had procured us an opportunity of seeing this library, introduced us also to Mr. Johnson, a merchant, whose collection of fossils, and especially of animal fossils, is certainly unique in its kind. Its possessor has employed himself in making this collection upwards of thirty years with singular perseverance, and with a success equally singular; and has brought together a number of things for which we should in vain seek in many museums of natural history. The colossal pieces are all arranged in a particular place in the court, as they would take up too much space in the rooms. Among these are the head of an animal, probably antediluvian, found in Dorsetshire. It is of immense size, being nearly four feet long and three feet broad. The eyes appear to be of the largest description hitherto known, for they are not less than a foot in length. The feet are formed like those of the beaver, and seem to have been serviceable to the animal in swimming. The vertebre of the back bone are of a completely rhomboidal form. We were told by

Mr. Johnson, that Sir Everard Home,* who when at Bristol remained a long time in his cabinet, is inclined to consider this animal a fish. Drawings of this remarkable subject, and of several other curiosities in the cabinet, have been forwarded to London to Sir Everard, who will probably soon publish a description of them in an appendix to the Philosophical Transactions.

Several other fossil animals, such as a fish, now only found in the South Seas (and already described in a work, the title of which I have unfortunately forgotten); sundry bones of animals, immense *ammonitæ*, or *cornua ammonis*, of a foot and upwards in diameter, are also arranged without the house. Among the smaller articles in the room, there are no doubt many things, which to a person acquainted with the subject, would appear highly curious. To me, who have no claim to that character, a mass of teeth of all sorts, large and small, which seem as if blended together, appeared extremely curious. Of single teeth found in stones, there are several in this collection. *Ammonitæ* of all shapes, noble *cornulitolithi*, both of a brownish and red colour, were successively shown to us; but the part of the cabinet containing the petrifactions in chalk, as the nature of the en-

* A London physician, well known among us from several medical and physiological works, and particularly his *Lectures on Comparative Anatomy*.

veloping substance had communicated to them a peculiar neatness, had for us the greatest attractions. The collection of minerals connected with the cabinet of fossils, is inferior to it in point of importance.

On this occasion we formed an acquaintance with Dr. Rawlins Johnson, the son of the proprietor, a worthy young physician, who has become known to the literary public, by his Treatise on the Medicinal Leech,* which met with a very favourable reception. When his father was called out, he with great complaisance showed us the remaining part of the cabinet, and informed us of the results of his inquiries respecting leeches, subsequently to the publication of his work: namely, respecting their generation, their hermaphrodite nature, and their appearance in the shape of eggs. He did not appear to be acquainted with any of the German writings on the subject.

Among the manufactories at Bristol, we saw the famous floor cloth manufactory of Mr. Hare,† and the equally famous Phœnix glass works. The former is mentioned by Nemnich as well worth seeing, and I willingly subscribe to his opinion. The very considerable manufactories of this article in London, seemed to me, compared with Mr. Hare's, which is indeed on a truly grand scale, almost insignificant. The stuff subjected to the process of printing, is

* Treatise on the Medicinal Leech, including its medical and natural history.—London, 1816, 8vo. with two plates.

† Nemnich, p. 231, 128.

woven here in immense looms, which admit of cloths of twenty-one ells in breadth; and the shuttle in this operation is, by two workmen, thrown to each other, who sit at the ends of the loom. The building for drying the printed floor-cloths are very extensive. The pieces are here, as in other manufactories, either stretched out or hung up in their full length and breadth. In stretching they contrive by means of screws, to give a greater degree of tension to it when necessary; and that which is hung up may at pleasure be raised to any height by pulleys fastened into the roof and floor, on which ropes run. The walls of the drying houses have on the south side an inclination of about seventy degrees, probably that the sun may have more power on them; whilst on the opposite side the bricks are laid on each other in the manner of a chess board, in order to allow free room for the passage of the wind through the intermediate spaces.* The manner of printing is the same as in smaller manufactories of the same kind, i. e. the forms, which are covered with oil colours, are as in the printing of cottons, kept on the stuff till the whole surface of the piece is printed. About eighty persons are employed here, who were then busied in making a large tent for the horse races, which were to be held in a few days at Swindon, a place in Wiltshire, not far distant from Bristol. The Phœnix

* I observed a similar arrangement in barns in different parts of England.

glass house belongs to a Mr. Ricketts. The furnace itself occupies the centre of the house, and is contrived in a manner totally different from any that I had ever seen before. The place where the furnace is, neither runs upwards in a conical form, nor is it open at top, the smoke must therefore find some other vent. Another peculiar contrivance is, that the glass put into the cooling-stove is not *shoved* into it, but set on a board, which by means of a wheel and pulley under it, is moved up and down on the floor of the furnace, and may be turned in and out at pleasure. The articles principally made here, are the finer sorts of glass-ware for household use, decanters, glasses, &c. In the warehouse there are large quantities of them, of every variety of shape, some of them exceedingly elegant. Among other articles we saw punch-bowls of from 50 to 100 guineas in price; most exquisitely cut, a mode of ornament for which this glass-work seems in general to be more distinguished, than for the beauty of the forms.

The last thing we had to see at Bristol, was a passing curiosity, namely, the fair, which is held every year on the 1st of September, in St. James's church-yard. This fair was principally instituted for the peculiar purpose of selling horses and oxen; but great number of curiosities had found their way into it, for which it was no doubt supposed that the visitants might have some relish after concluding their bargains. Among these were in the

first place, Buonaparte's travelling-carriage, taken by a Prussian officer at the battle of Waterloo, and by him brought to England, and there sold. Mr. Bullock, the proprietor of the great museum of natural history at Piccadilly in London, who had purchased this memorable trophy after its having previously passed through other hands, and exhibited it more than half a year in London, in the course of his journeys through England and Scotland, was now arrived here, and carried the palm from every competitor in the exhibition of curiosities. A tent, erected in the centre of the fair, ornamented with glittering French helmets, cuirasses, eagles, and standards, encircled the treasure which hundreds flocked to behold, and had scarcely patience to await the moment when they should be admitted to view it. Besides this principal curiosity, there were others of a second rate from London, as Mr. Hauptmann, the dwarf, and his diminutive female companion, whose leader had not omitted to represent in a large picture over the entrance to the show, the memorable moment when the dwarfs were presented to the foreign princes, at that time in England, the Emperor of Russia, King of Prussia, Prince Blucher, &c. Live lions, bears, tigers, and panthers, were to be seen in several collections; and the word "alive," in letters of a foot in length, appearing prominent in the inscriptions on the booths, seemed to give assurance there was no reason to apprehend any deception in the

substitution of an image for the real animal. There was no deficiency of gingerbread stalls, &c.; English swings, larger than I had ever seen, being at least thirty feet in diameter; and races, and other diversions for the populace, were in great abundance. Half Bristol was in motion to see all these fine things; and whoever wished to gratify this inclination had enough to do to secure his pockets from the invasion of dexterous hands in the crowd.

We left Bristol at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon, and on our road to Bath met with numberless post-chaises and gentlemens' carriages conveying persons to the fair. The road to Bath goes through Keynsham, a pretty little town with a large Gothic church, which has a very fine appearance. A stone bridge of fifteen arches thrown over the Avon, to the north of the town, which we see at a distance, produces an uncommonly striking effect, when we come into the vicinity of Keynsham.

CHAP. VI.

Bath—The Northern part—Walcot-Terrace—Upper and Lower Camden-Place—Marlborough-Buildings The Royal Crescent—The Parades—The Eastern part—Great Pulteney-Street—Sidney-Gardens—The Baths—The New Drinking-Room—The New Assembly-Rooms—The Cathedral—Sepulchral Monuments in it—Departure from Bath—Corsham-House—Mr. Methuen's Gallery of Paintings—Chippenham—Devizes.

The sight of the crescents, parades, and other rows of uniform buildings of which Bath chiefly consists, did not make that impression on me I had expected from it; whether it was that the absence of the sun in this very rainy summer imparted too much sameness of tone to the grayish hue of the houses, or that the dark and cloudy colouring of the horizon caused the whole to appear in a less agreeable light, I cannot pretend to say; I can only observe that the view did not appear to me so surprisingly striking as it has been generally represented.

We drove through several narrow streets into the town, properly so called; in the centre of which we

alighted at the White Lion inn. After having taken some refreshment, we immediately betook ourselves to our usual rambles. Bath rises amphitheatrically, and with a gradual ascent from the northern bank of the Avon, by which, from the bend it here takes, it is entirely surrounded both towards the north and the east. From the gradual nature of the ascent we can proceed with ease from the lower part, or what is properly the town, to the suburbs on the higher ground. We passed by a small but well-built church, ornamented with a portico, along Broad-street, through Bladud's Paragon, and Alford-buildings, continually ascending until we came to Walcot-terrace, where we found ourselves so much above the level of the town that we could overlook the whole mass of buildings. Even here the prospect well rewarded our trouble. Above us were large rows of buildings; beneath us, to the left, we had the view across the fields, and of detached villas surrounded with wood, and to the right the environs of the Royal Circus, and the wide and beautifully verdant plain of Barton Fields, spreading out before it. A by-road to the left, between garden-walls, leads to the superb rows of houses which adorn the north-east end of the town. This character peculiarly belongs to lower and upper Camden-place, both built in the style of the great Crescent at Clifton, although differing from each other in this, that the first forms a straight line of houses; whilst the other is in the

shape of a half moon, running out into two straight lines at its extremities. The houses which compose this crescent are all three stories in height; the whole is executed in the most noble style, and a pediment in the centre is adorned with the arms of the noble family of Camden, in relief. A flight of steps leads to the area, into which the doors of the houses open, and a noble verdant grass plat extends itself in front of the whole semi-circle. Proceeding through a long double row of houses, called Lansdowne-place, and then turning westwards we passed through the stately houses of the western streets, which form the most splendid rows, till we at length reached Marlborough-buildings, a superb succession of edifices fronting the east, and from which, in an oblique direction, we have a view of nearly the whole town as far as the river. Like all the other rows this is built on one plan, with a terrace and balconies, and it is occupied by about a dozen proprietors.

Next to it lies the crown of all these masses of houses, the superb Royal Crescent, a semi-circle, of not less than 100 windows, between which there are an equal number of columns, and consisting of thirty houses, most of them of three, but some of four windows. The perfect uniformity of the architecture gives a grandeur to its appearance, but gives at the same time a sameness to it, especially from the dark gray colour of the stone. The prospect of the

town, and all the surrounding country, over Barton Fields* (an extensive plain, covered with verdure, which we have already noticed), is indescribably beautiful. The road leads into Brook-street, passing close by the crescent, which enables its inhabitants to view the daily bustle along it. The Circus, a circle of houses surrounded by other houses, and intersected in three places by Bennet, Grey, and Brook-streets, which lead to it, has rather a gloomy appearance, and seems to be occupied only by the middling class of inhabitants. Next to this is Queen's-square, a square place enclosed by houses, which has also nothing remarkable about it. In the centre of the grass plot, which fills this place, and is surrounded by an iron rail, stands an obelisk, in the worst taste, seventy feet in height, erected by Mr. Nash, the Bath king, whom we shall hereafter mention, in commemoration of the visit which George II., when Prince of Wales, accompanied by his consort, paid to this place in the year 1737.†

Towards evening we hastened to the southern part of the town to see the parades. These again consist of a row of houses with double fronts, one facing the

* On which buildings are not allowed to be erected, that the prospect may not be injured.

† There is a mistake here, George II. succeeded to the throne in 1727. The Prince of Wales, who visited Bath in 1737, must have been the father of his late majesty.—— Trans.

north, and the other the south, whence the former has received the appellation of the North, and the latter of the South Parade. Whatever the crescents derive from their higher situation, these parades derive from their lowness. From them, and especially from the North Parade, which looks towards the town, we can see over Bath, and view all the superb buildings at its northern end, rising one above the other, till the last blends with the green of the objects around it, and thus closes the picture. The North Parade has also a free prospect through a bowling green immediately in front of it, intersected by walks, and planted with trees; but with regard to the situation itself, it is much less pleasant than the South Parade, with which it is connected by Duke-street, which cuts both masses of houses into two equal halves. Both parades afford however an equally pleasing promenade; as a fine broad terrace of about forty feet in width, enclosed by a stone balustrade, runs in front of each. Duke-street is paved in the same manner. The South Parade is rendered one of the most pleasant walks in Bath, from its having a view over richly cultivated gardens as far as Claverton, where the distant prospect is agreeably interrupted by a chain of hills, thickly covered with wood. In walking here in the evening, in beautiful and clear weather, and the light of the full moon, I found it frequented by a number of well dressed people of both sexes.

The eastern part of Bath is not less elegant than the northern part, from which it is divided by the Avon. The river is here of a considerable width, and has been built over, so that the rows of houses are continued without interruption; and no rise in the street leads us to suppose that we are proceeding over water. Passing through Bridge-street, which is filled with elegant shops on both sides, and then through Argyle-buildings, we come to Laura-place, built in a rhomboidal form, from which in a northern direction runs the beautiful Henrietta-street, in the form of a half moon, and following the course of the river. It is proposed to erect hereafter a spacious square on the other side of the river, to be called Frances'-square. Beyond Laura-place we come to the elegant Great Pulteney-street, which for its breadth, its proportionate length, and the splendour of the palace-like houses, of which it consists on both sides, is certainly one of the finest streets in Europe. It opens towards the east into a spacious octagon, the centre of which is occupied by Sidney-gardens, and the sides of which are surrounded by Sidney-place, consisting of a row of houses. The entrance into Sidney-gardens, immediately joining Great Pulteney-street, from the wide open place in its front, for the drawing up of carriages, has a very magnificent appearance; and a portico of four columns, renders it also highly agreeable.

Sidney-gardens, like Vauxhall at London, are ap-

propriated for public diversions, fire-works, illuminations, and the like, and fitted up accordingly. The house, which forms the entrance, contains several handsome rooms, where refreshments may be obtained; and on the side towards the garden it has a covered balcony, in which the orchestra is placed on festive occasions. Close before it is a large rotunda, surrounded on both sides by benches, where we still found the traces of an illumination that had been given in honour of the Prince Regent's birth day,* on which occasion a large statue of Prince Blucher was set up, which had been made at the expense of Mr. Parish, a rich Hambugh banker, and native of England, then residing at Bath. From the semi-rotunda, a broad walk leads straight through the middle of the garden to its termination, where a small temple, with an open vestibule, forms a point of view, which we reach by a pretty little wooden bridge over a canal that intersects the garden.

On both sides of the central walk are labyrinths through the garden, and on one side there is also a mock labyrinth. Of swings, arbours, cascades, &c., there is, as may be supposed, no deficiency. The charge for the privilege of walking in the garden is seven shillings and sixpence for the season, but non-subscribers must pay sixpence a time, which was demanded also of us.

A walk down to the Avon, and the south side of

* On the 12th of August.

the city, brought us to the beautiful St. James's Parade, a uniform row of houses, built in the same style as the others; and like the Royal Crescent, enjoys the advantage of an unbounded prospect. The Quay, a succession of buildings along the river side, contains the conveniencies, such as warehouses, cranes, &c. necessary for carrying on what little internal trade Bath is concerned in. On our way we had a cursory view of a pretty considerable brewery. There is a solid stone bridge of four arches over the Avon. Claverton, a pretty little village on the other side of the river, contains several very neat houses; and Claverton-downs, an extensive meadow to the eastward of the village, affords an excellent point for viewing the cathedral and its environs from a distance.

Among the public buildings, the bath must first be mentioned. It consists of two divisions, the King and Queen's baths, and the Hot and Cross baths; the two former and the two latter are connected with each other. The two former consist of two uncovered basins, the one sixty-five, and the other twenty-five feet in length. In the middle of the King's bath there is a handsome building of sandstone, with seats and niches, and a Doric colonnade encircling the basin. There is a statue of the dwarf King Bladud, who, according to tradition, discovered the medicinal springs of Bath, several centuries be-

fore the birth of Christ, with an inscription on it by the side of the basin. The Queen's bath is fitted up in the same manner as the King's: the degree of heat is about 103 degrees Fahrenheit. The Cross bath (so called from a cross which the Earl of Melfort, secretary of state to King James II. caused to be erected in it, but which was afterwards taken down), is situated at the end of Bath-street, of a triangular form, and is likewise uncovered. It is surrounded by a building of one story high, which contains a small pump-room. The temperature of this bath is the most moderate of all, for it amounts only to ninety-six degrees. About sixty paces from it lies the Hot bath, which derives its name from the high degree of heat, amounting to 117 degrees, which is peculiar to it. It is surrounded by a square building, in which, as in the Cross bath, there is a room where the water is drank. These baths (so far as regards the uncovered part of them) are all public, and may be used gratis by the poor.

The new pump-room connected with the two former, is a splendid edifice, formed of two large houses, two stories in height, united by a colonnade, with a pediment in the centre.* The building to the right is completely taken up by one large room, the [illegible]-room; which is also embellished with a por-

* See a view of it in the Guide to all the Watering and Bathing Places.—London, 1816, p. 48.

tico of four Corinthian columns, and an attica,* and for splendour this surpasses all the rooms of a similar description in Cheltenham, Buxton, Leamington, &c. It is not less than sixty feet long, forty-six broad, and thirty-four high, and is ornamented likewise in the inside with Corinthian columns, projecting out of the wall three-fourth parts of their circumference, which produces an effect equally grand and pleasing. At the end of it is the gallery, where, during the season, the orchestra plays; and opposite to it, at the other end, in a niche above a beautiful clock, is a marble statue of the celebrated Richard Nash, master of the ceremonies, or King of Bath, executed by Hoare, who however has not been able to make more of the old fashioned dress of this Bath monarch, than has been done by those who before him have undertaken the ungrateful task of transmitting modern dresses to posterity.† The water flows out of a beautiful marble vase in the south part of the room opposite to the entrance, and on each side of the basin are fire-places.

The new assembly-rooms are the scene of such diversions as cannot be enjoyed in the open air. They form a large building with two projections, taking

* Nothing can be more appropriate than the following inscription in gilt letters on the frieze, taken from Pindar.

ΑΡΙΣΤΟΝ ΜΕΝ ΥΔΩΡ.

† See more respecting Nash in the above mentioned Guide.

up a whole square between Bennet and Alfred-streets, and containing several roomy and well furnished apartments. Among these the two tea-rooms and the ball-room, are particularly distinguished. The first of the tea-rooms, is of an octagonal figure, forty-two feet in breadth, and lighted by a superb crown chandelier, with forty-five tapers; the second is of the same breadth, but its length extends to seventy-five feet. The ball-room is lighted by day by an upper row of windows,* and in the evening by five large lustres, in which altogether 200 candles are lighted. The card, reading, and concert-rooms, correspond with the splendour of the bath. The lower assembly-rooms, a smaller building, but provided with a large portico, not far from the North Parade, are mostly frequented in summer by private card parties, who do not allow admission to strangers.

Bath possesses a fine Gothic edifice in its cathedral, or as it is commonly called, the Abbey church. Although inferior in majesty of form and colossal extent, to most of the other cathedrals in England,† it is nevertheless entitled to much consideration on account of the uncommon neatness, and industry, if we may be allowed the expression, with which even the smallest ornaments are executed. In this

* In the manner of the ball-room at Leamington, see Vol. I, page 66.

† Length of the church 210 feet, of the cross aisle 126 feet, height of the (square) steeple 162 feet.

respect, the west front, which is turned towards the King's bath, on the outside of which an open spot offers an excellent point of view to the spectator, is deserving of peculiar attention. A decoration to the left of the great window, consisting of a ladder carved in stone, and reaching nearly to the roof, on which a host of angels, at various distances from each other, are climbing up to heaven, has a highly singular appearance. The other decorations on this side have also something peculiar in them. The interior (as is the case with nearly all the Gothic churches in England, which have been cleaned within the last forty or fifty years) has been coloured white and yellow. The roof, both of the west end and the choir is particularly rich; and the latter, on which more skill and labour has been bestowed than on the other, bears a strong resemblance to the roof of King's College at Cambridge, of which mention will be made hereafter. The central points of the cross arches are ornamented with the city arms, painted and gilt. Hurd's chapel, a beautiful private room in the west end to the left of the eastern entrance, decorated with all the pomp of Gothic statuary, must not be overlooked. The monuments of the departed in this cathedral remind us of several of the distinguished names of England. Here rests Melmoth, the translator of Pliny and Cicero; Sibthorpe, the botanist, and author of the Flora Græca (now continued by Sir J. E. Smith), whom Flaxman has repre-

sented as a pilgrim, landing in the Elysian fields, with a plant in his hand; Quin, the actor, whose epitaph flowed from the pen of Garrick; Sarah Fielding, the sister of the excellent and affecting author of that name; and several other persons of note.

About mid-day, on the 4th of September, we quitted Bath, and took the road to Chippenham, with the view of visiting Corsham, the family seat of the Methuens, about half way between it and Bath, and examining the excellent collection of pictures there. The house, which lies in the midst of a park, at the entrance gate of which we alighted, has quite the appearance of an English dwelling-house of the fifteenth or sixteenth centuries, an appearance which seems to have been retained with great care, as the additions and embellishments have been executed wholly in the style peculiar to the more ancient part. It consists of a *corps de logis*, with two projecting smaller wings;* the back part and the enlargement of the side wings are the work of the successors of the original founder of the gallery, Sir Paul Methuen, and of the same family; in which they have availed themselves of the services of two celebrated architects, Brown and Nash, the latter of whom has proceeded with peculiar intelligence under the present

* Compare J. Britton's Historical Account of Corsham House, in Wiltshire, with a Catalogue of the Celebrated Collection of Pictures.—London, 1806, 8vo. with two engravings.

proprietor, Paul Cobb Methuen, Esq., a highly cultivated individual, and a lover of art.*

A broad flight of steps in the centre of the front leads to the great hall, which is 100 feet in length and fifteen feet wide, and built and ornamented quite in the Gothic style. On both sides broad flights of stairs lead to the upper story, and into the lower rooms; and a gallery of the height of the second story runs round the walls. The first room which we come to on the right of the entrance† is the state dressing-room, a small square apartment, in which besides the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Methuen, the parents of the present Mr. Methuen, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, there are some very fine cabinet pictures; among which the most distinguished are, a Boy blowing soap bubbles, by Annibal Caracci; the Death of Procris, by Elzheimer; and a spirited sketch by Rubens, of a satyr pressing grapes, with a tyger and a leopard.

From this room we proceed to the state bed-room, of the same extent with the former, in which, besides

* Mr. Britton has very accurately distinguished by different shades, the earlier and more recent additions, in the view which he has given of the house.

† On two days in the week (Tuesdays and Fridays), when the gallery is open to visitors, the family retires into the rooms on the left; and particularly into the library, in the projecting wing, a room which in houses of consideration, is often used as the common room of the family.

a very highly finished picture of Maltese and M. Angelo Campidoglio, representing a table covered with tapestry, with fruit on it, and two or three other pictures; there is a portrait of the present occupant, Paul Methuen, in a Spanish dress, by Gainsborough. In the third room, called the cabinet-room, a well-lighted oblong apartment, which is entirely filled with pictures, the eye is immediately caught by several excellent pieces of Claude Lorraine. The beautiful Morning, the counter part to his Evening, which is also contained in this collection, is well entitled to priority of notice: although in colouring it is not so lively, and in conception not so rich as the latter, it will always be considered a picture which does honour to the hand of its master, and occupy a considerable rank from the harmony of its composition. The tree in the middle of the picture is placed and executed in a manner indescribably beautiful.* Two noble little pieces by the younger Vander Velde, representing a harbour in the Mediterranean, and a sea fight with the Turks, are well suited to the place they occupy. A half length portrait of Hernan Cortez, the conqueror of Mexico, painted by Titian, in his best manner,† gives a distinct idea of the spirit with which Cortez was animated. A very sweet Holy Family, by Parmigianino, is by no means

* Peake's engraving of this picture, executed for Boydell, has made it known in other countries.

† Engraved by Vertue, as early as the year 1724.

thrown in the shade by another piece, representing the same subject, by Cignani, in the same apartment. Few collections can equal in wealth the next apartment, which is properly the picture gallery, and which is sixty feet in length.

To the right of the door hangs the incomparable picture of Titian, the Christian Virtues (seven feet four inches long, and six feet broad), a picture equally excellent for colouring and composition; and which may well be classed as one of the most beautiful in the collection. In the middle of the picture the Virgin is represented with the child at her breast, whose feet Peter is kissing. St. John is pointing to the Lamb, whilst Faith, Hope, and Charity, are standing by, each in the character of their name, and all equally noble in the conception. Beside this, the following pictures are deserving of mention, viz. the Murder of the Innocents at Bethlehem, with a number of groups (said to be by Vandyke, but although painted with great effect, it seems rather to be by Rubens); a large picture by Carlo Dolce, seven feet and a half long, and six feet broad, representing our Saviour in the house of the Pharisee, and Mary Magdalen washing his feet (probably the greatest work of this master for size, but by no means so in point of merit); a Magdalen, with a Skull before her, by Titian, rather too plump, and not sufficiently noble; Tancred and Erminia, and a kneeling female

Saint, with two Children, and Angels in the clouds; two beautifully coloured pictures by Pietro da Cortona; two battle pieces, said to be by L. Giordano, but probably by Huchtenburg; a Mathematician, by Spagnoletto, uncommonly powerful, and animated;* a large and excellent painting for effect, by Rubens and Snyders (Rubens, his Wife, and an unknown Man, are represented on horseback, hunting, and surrounded by dogs, foxes, &c., the figures as large as life are in rich Spanish dresses, and are full of animation and vigour.) But the greatest ornament to this room after the above mentioned picture by Titian, is Claude Lorraine's Evening. This invaluable picture, one of the most powerful for effect ever produced by the pencil of that painter of nature, leaves his Morning far behind, and in my opinion, is far superior to all the pictures by Claude, that we have in Germany. The architecture in the fore ground, the surface of the water, with the mountains gently rising behind, and losing themselves in the distance, altogether form the most harmonious whole that can be conceived. The colouring, the brilliancy diffused over the picture, and the magical effect of the evening light, are truly inimit-

* The same picture, under the name of Archimedes, and attributed to Spagnoletto, appeared in London at the sale of Lucien Bonaparte's collection in 1816. I will not attempt to decide which of them is the copy.

able.* The gallery itself is a beautiful room, independently of the pictures; large mirrors, of a single plate, cover the spaces between the five windows which give light to it; superb vases of Chinese porcelain stand on the tables before them; and it has a noble chimney-piece of white marble, with figures, probably by the hand of an Italian artist.

The next apartment, the music room, is lighted from above by a glass cupola. Here again the abundance of excellent pictures are such, that we are embarrassed which we shall first look at. The following are distinguished works; the Virgin and Child in the clouds, with five Saints, by Vandyke, beautifully composed; the same subject, by Guido, but smaller, being only two feet long, and one foot broad; Christ breaking the Bread, by Carlo Dolce;† a portrait of St. Bruno, by the same, much in the style of Velasquez; an excellent sketch, by Vandyke, for his large picture of St. Augustine in Extacy, at Antwerp; the Supper, by Tintoret, three feet by two, beautifully grouped; Omphale, by A. Caracci, altogether a most splendid picture, representing Omphale naked, in the lion's skin, with the club; Anna Carr, Countess of Bedford, a half figure, by Van-

* Byrne's excellent engraving from it must be well known to every lover of art.

† There is a picture quite similar at Burleigh, the seat of the Marquis of Exeter, another at Wilton, and another at Dresden, and it is still undecided which is the original.

dyke; the portrait of the celebrated anatomist, Vesalius, by Tintoret, uncommonly powerful. The following possess considerable merit: three Children of Henry VII. of England, Arthur, Henry, and Margaret, by Jean de Maubeuge, a beautiful little picture, of which there are three copies, at Windsor, Kensington, and Wilton; the interior of a Church, by V. Breughel; a Tinker and his Dog, by Weeninx; a Fortune-teller, by Giorgione; a Bacchanalian piece, a sketch in two colours, by Rubens, painted in the manner of the sketches before mentioned, at Marbury Hall; and a large Boor piece, with an alehouse, and a number of figures, by Ostade.

The saloon next to this apartment, is one of the finest rooms in the whole house.* It is entirely in the Gothic style, forming an octagon, and on the three sides towards the park has three large arched windows projecting from the front of the building, and forming together a semi-hexagon, which reach from within about two feet of the floor almost to the ceiling, and take in each the whole breadth of a side. The panes of glass of which the windows are composed, are perhaps three feet by two. The view of the park through these windows, which are clear as chrystal, is most delightful. The furniture, is simple but elegant, corresponding with the splendour of the

* Built by Nash, as were also the preceeding and the following apartments.

architecture. In the centre stood a table, covered with books and engravings; and vases with the choicest flowers, filled the room with the most exquisite perfume. Immediately over the chimney, there is a masterpiece, by Elzheimer, which in point of execution, is equalled by few, and for which either the artist himself or its next possessor, must have received a considerable sum, for on the back of the plate of copper on which it is painted, are engraved the words, "*costo mil dublones in Amberes.*"* It represents the shipwreck of the Apostle Paul at Malta, and is eight inches and a half by six inches and a half. Of equal excellence are a portrait of James Stuart, Duke of Richmond, with a dog, altogether a most exquisite picture, by Vandyke, which for beauty can only be compared with his celebrated Family of King Charles at Windsor; a Magdalen, by Quintin Matsys, in a style quite different from that of his other pictures, and deviating much from the character of the German school; two portraits of men in ruffs, by Rubens, of which the one over the door in particular, is very beautiful; Sir Bryan Tuke, treasurer to Henry VIII., by Holbein, a small picture,

* "I cost a thousand doubloons in Antwerp."—AUTHOR.

The author, from his imperfect knowledge of the Spanish, here supposes *costo* the first person singular of the present, whereas it is the third person singular of the preterite definite. The present is *cuesto* and not *costo*; and the correct translation is *it cost*, and not *I cost*.——TRANS.

about two feet by one, very highly finished; Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby, mother to Henry VII., by Jean de Maubeuge.

But the jewel of this room is a picture, said to be by Johs. van Eyck, two feet five inches in breadth, and three feet five inches high. It represents a Holy Family; the Virgin is sitting in a blue dress in the centre, with the infant Jesus at her breast; St. Anne on her right, and St. Catherine on her left side; the latter habited as a queen, in rich flowing robes, the folds of which are painted in a wonderfully rich style; Joseph is behind Mary, looking at the group. It is impossible to tear ourselves hastily from this picture, the conception and execution of which are equally beautiful; I went several times through the different rooms, but always found myself at last beside this treasure.

The dining-room is almost entirely filled with large pictures. Among these are a portrait of the Dutchess of Mantua, grandmother to Charles V., with her son at her breast, as large as life, and very splendidly painted, by B. Castiglione; a beautiful large picture, by Breughel, of a Rustic Festival, five feet five inches long, by three feet nine inches high, with a number of figures peculiarly grouped, in all sorts of grotesque dresses, and in a much better and grander style than that of his ordinary pictures; and an uncommonly beautiful animal piece, by Snyders, perhaps one of his best works, for it is painted with

the greatest truth, and at the same time with considerable execution. It represents cats on a table covered with fruit, and biting each other; one of them is in the act of falling, and hangs with its head undermost in the air. It is four feet two inches broad, and three feet eight inches high.

Besides the pleasure we derived from viewing this rare collection of the treasures of art, we were likewise agreeably surprised by the uncommon politeness of the housekeeper by whom they were shown to us; for in houses of this kind, we generally experienced a treatment quite the reverse. She allowed us to remain in the rooms as long as we pleased to move about at will, from one to another, and frequently expressed the great satisfaction her master felt when pleasure was derived from viewing his collection. He on his part, has certainly done every thing to enable persons to see them to advantage. In each room there is a catalogue of the pictures, marked according to their places, or a copy of Britton's book on the gallery, in which the pieces are described according to the numbers they there have. Glasses of all sorts for examining the pictures; hollow tubes with the insides blackened for contracting the circle of vision; &c., are to be found in abundance; and in short, every thing has been studied to render the enjoyment as complete as possible.

From Corsham-house we proceeded immediately to Chippenham. On the road we passed by several

parks, and in particular between two, probably belonging to the same owner, being connected together by an elegant iron bridge, which crosses the road at a considerable height above it.

We rattled so quickly through the town itself, that I can say but little of it; and with equal rapidity over a handsome stone bridge of sixteen small arches, over the Avon, which winds almost entirely round the town, and by seven o'clock in the evening we were in Devizes.* This little town is built in a very old fashioned style; but the market place, in which the inn where we alighted is situated, is very spacious and open, and is ornamented with a modern market cross in the centre. I can recommend the Hart and Bear inn† to all travellers, for we had every reason to be satisfied with our treatment and attendance.

* This name is said to be derived from the Latin word *divisa*, as the town was formerly divided between the King, and the Bishop of Salisbury.

† The inn itself consists of two houses, of which the one has the sign of a Hart, and the other that of a Bear.

CHAP. VII.

Salisbury Plain—Stonehenge—Old Sarum—Salisbury —Steel Ware—Mr. Goddard—The Market—The Town-Hall—The Cathedral—The Chapter House—St. Thomas's Church—Wilton—Wilton House—Earl Pembroke's Collection of Antiques and Pictures —Busts—Bas-reliefs—Statues—Vandyke's Pictures—Library—Dining Room.

About eight o'clock next morning we left Devizes, and at the end of the town passed a church, which being almost surrounded by water, seems to be built on an island, and is remarkable for a square tower of colossal size.* Mr. Estcourt's grand and spacious park afforded us entertainment for a long while. Not far from Devizes we entered upon Salisbury plain, an immense level, covered with heath and low brush wood, on which here and there sheep are seen feeding. At the entrance on this plain we stopped at a little country inn, which with its straw-covered roof, its little garden, and grass-plat with a bench on it, formed a very pleasing picture of rural

* This must have been St. John's church, the steeple of which is still entirely in the Norman style. See a view of it in the Antient Reliques already alluded to, part I.

simplicity. If I am not mistaken, like the houses at Devizes, it was entirely covered with ivy.

We had resolved on making a circuit of a few miles, for the purpose of seeing the ancient British monument of Stonehenge. From the high idea we had formed of it to ourselves, we were very much astonished, when viewing it at a small distance, to find it appear extremely insignificant. It is indeed impossible to form a just idea of the immense size of the stones, till we are close before them. The whole appears to have consisted of two circles, of which the outer one contained thirty stones, standing erect, whereon smaller stones are laid horizontally, so that taken together, the latter may be considered as forming a sort of entablature, and the former the pillars. The upright stones however were not of equal height; most of them are about sixteen feet high, and eighteen feet in circumference. The second or interior circle is composed of stones standing erect, of which the height and circumference are nearly similar to those commonly observed in the Druidical temples, still to be found in England. Some of them appear to have been wrought with the chisel; at least, I think I may venture to affirm this of those which are placed horizontally. One large stone which at an angle of nearly seventy-five degrees, lies half buried in the earth, and has a kind of wart-like excrescence at the upper end, has the most singular appearance of all of them. Besides

these regular circles, there are single stones a few paces from it, which probably may have formerly belonged to exterior circles, scattered by the hand of time. The traces of a Roman or British camp beyond the road, which passes by Stonehenge, are very faint, and only distinguishable in a few eminences and ditches around them.

Old Sarum, one of the rotten boroughs as they are called, is said to have once occupied the whole of the hill, at the foot of which stands the only remaining house, by which the name of the place is still retained, and which enjoys the important privilege of returning two members to Parliament, who are elected at this house by the proprietors of some estates in the vicinity. The hill itself still shows some traces of ancient fortifications, consisting of mounds of earth.

Salisbury, at a distance, is distinguished by nothing but the high and pointed steeple of its cathedral, from an ordinary little country town; but on this very account, and its rural environs, it has so delightful an appearance, that we feel ourselves involuntarily attracted towards it. The private houses in the town, are not much distinguished for their exterior, and part of them appear to be very old. The cleanness of the streets, which are rather narrow, is essentially promoted by a running water, flowing through the town in small canals in front of the

houses.* The inn called the Prince Regent, where we put up, is undoubtedly one of the most splendid in Salisbury, it takes up three sides of a square, and with the two projecting wings encloses a court in which carriages can enter and turn. The rooms, furniture, and attendance, correspond to the exterior. We obtained a handsome sitting-room on the ground-floor, of the side of the right wing fronting the street; which from its vicinity to the street, afforded us an opportunity of seeing more of the inhabitants of the town than we should otherwise have done.

Salisbury is so famous for its manufactures of steel, both in England and in Foreign countries, that as soon as we had secured our lodgings, we inquired for the residence of Mr. Goddard, the principal manufacturer in that line. It was but a few doors from our inn, and therefore we soon found ourselves before his shop, which as Mr. Goddard is cutler to the Prince Regent and the Royal Family, had proudly displayed over it three ostrich feathers of enormous size, the arms of the Prince, which were repeated, though on a reduced scale, above all the doors in the inside. The sight of the highly polished steel wares, arranged in elegant glass cases is so tempting, that it would be no small effort to refrain

* This contrivance is to be found in a very few towns of England, which however, is rather to be ascribed to the rarity of a favourable situation, than the not turning the means to account, when they do occur.

from purchasing too deeply, if the enormous prices here demanded, did not operate as a restraint on us. We saw knives and scissars made for the late Princess Charlotte, and among other things a most elegant penknife ornamented with the royal crown, with a very handsome mother of pearl handle; which had served as a model for a similar one purposely made for her, when in passing through Salisbury to Weymouth, she stopped, in order to pay a visit to the bishop, Doctor Fisher, formerly her tutor, of whom she was exceedingly fond; Waterloo penknives in the shape of a cannon; netting needles of various kinds, splendidly set with brilliants. Scissars of all kinds, down to the very small size of a quarter of an inch long; and razors of all sizes, up to the magnum bonum, a large razor like a sword, double the size and thickness of those in common use, were in turn exhibited to us, by Mr. Goddard, with great good nature. He pointed our attention more particularly to a master-piece in steel work, a pair of scissars made by his father. The bows of these scissars were most curiously ornamented in the open manner, in a style more peculiarly valuable in a mechanical point of view, as all the ornaments were laboriously executed with the file. Mr. Goddard preserves these scissars in an elegant mahogany box with glass, and assured us, that if any one were to offer him 200 guineas for them, he would not sell them.

The market-place at Salisbury is of considerable extent, and is surrounded by handsome houses. The town-hall, which was commenced in 1788, and finished in 1795, built at the expense of the Earl of Radnor, is a square building, one side of which has a portico of four Doric columns. As however, the portico is turned towards a street, it produces but a very indifferent appearance. The south side of the market-place has the best appearance, and in the eyes of the lover of antiquity is peculiarly attractive, as it contains the Poultry cross, a large covered Gothic market-cross, under which the country people who come to market take shelter in bad weather.

From the market, we went straight to the Cathedral, an edifice equally favoured by its situation and distinguished for the style in which it is built, and which may be considered as one of the finest monuments of ecclesiastical architecture. It is situated at the end of the town in a large open space, planted with fine old lime trees, which run in an alley round the north and west sides of the church, and form a beautiful walk. The principal front is towards the west, and although it is a mixture of Saxon, Norman, and Gothic architecture, from its height and breadth, as well as the peculiar style of the ornaments, it produces a most powerful effect. It consists of five stories or rows of niches, all of which, as we may see from the pedestals that still remain, must have been once filled up with statues,

and have afforded a most magnificent spectacle. Of these statues, a few only remain in the niches, with which the two great buttresses on both sides of the entrance, reaching from top to bottom, and two smaller buttresses beside them are ornamented. Two large square towers with small pinnacles, form the side borders of the front. The usual entrance, as in most cathedrals, is in the west end of the north side. We first enter a singular square hall, supported by slender pillars inserted into the wall, and then enter the west end. This Cathedral, with respect to style of building, differs from all those we had hitherto seen. Instead of the colossal Saxon or Gothic pillars, which we see in Durham, Gloucester, Worcester, and Tewkesbury, the roof here rests on slender pillars, consisting of one stronger central pillar, and four thinner ones, about two inches from it, by which it is surrounded, and which form a whole with it.* Between the pillars stand the monuments, somewhat elevated, among which there is one of William de Clifford, a natural son of Henry II. and the Fair Rosamond.† They are all in good preservation, and form an important ornament of the space in which they are placed. Of the two cross aisles, the

* The central pillar consists of twenty-four pieces, the outer ones only of two.

† Her palace was near Woodstock, not far from the Lake, which now forms one of the chief ornaments of Blenheim Park.

northern one has large and magnificent windows on the eastern and western sides, and contains some monuments deserving the attention of travellers, both on account of the persons to whose memory they are erected, and the artists by whom they were executed. Among these I shall first mention that by Bacon, to the memory of James Harris, so well known as an acute philologist, and particularly on account of his Hermes; it has a very appropriate inscription in Latin. The monuments of Benson, Earle, and Walter Long, possess a high interest, from their owing their existence to the chisel of Flaxman, by whom they have been executed in an admirable manner, especially that of the latter, which is in the Gothic style, and forms a kind of hall, in which two figures with drapery of uncommon beauty, are represented in a kneeling posture opposite to each other. The decorations of the arches of the cross aisle, approach very nearly to the Saxon style. The screen which separates the choir from the west end, is, as is usually the case in cathedrals of such consequence, very rich in ornaments, and especially in a small fan-like ornament, which is also repeated all round the entrance. On this rests the organ, a present to the church from King George III., who from his residing at Windsor, which is in the diocese of Salisbury, jocosely reckoned himself one of the parishioners of the Bishop of Salisbury.

At the east end of the choir, and running out

from it, is the communion room, or lady's chapel, as it is called. It forms as it were a distinct chapel by itself, and is separated from the choir by six noble, admirable, and slender pillars, which describe three sides of a square, the hind wall forming the fourth. The windows by which this chapel is lighted, admit only such a degree of light through the dark-stained glass, in which crimson-coloured ornaments are introduced, as is necessary to give greater effect to the painting on glass; in the window over the altar Mr. Egginton, who executed it, has represented the Resurrection of our Saviour from a drawing of Sir Joshua Reynolds', and exerted the whole power of the art that was peculiar to him, placing the figure of Our Saviour hovering over the grave, in a very clear light contrasted with the surrounding dark clouds, in which he has been eminently successful.* The glass painting presented to this cathedral by the Earl of Radnor, which occupies the space of the semi-circular window above the communion chapel, and represents the adoration of the brazen serpent, is much richer in composition and in variety of colouring than the above picture of Mr. Egginton, that has but one figure in it. It is separated into three divisions, and contains no less than twenty-three figures, all remarkably well drawn. Pearson was

* The reader will recollect, that in Vol. I. p. 76, I have described a similar picture by Egginton, in St. Chad's church at Shrewsbury, which I prefer to this.

the name of the artist.* The pew of the Radnor family is in the Gothic style, of cast-iron, with richly ornamented points, opposite to the bishop's chair, which, as well as the seats of the prebendaries, in the general repair of this church that took place some years ago under the direction of Wyatt, was reconstructed according to a plan of that architect in the style of the building, and in such a manner as to harmonize with the general splendour. Audley chapel, as old as the reign of Henry VII., is a beautifully ornamented pew of an oblong form, that from its roof, in which the execution of the carving is uncommonly fine, merits the attention of every visitor. The steeple is 410 feet in height, and pointed, is the highest of all the cathedral steeples in England, and the prospect from it must be very extensive, though from the flatness of the country it cannot be very attractive. A party of strangers having ascended the steeple, the door of the staircase was left open, and we had thereby an opportunity of walking round the galleries, which run round both sides of the west end, and from which there is a full view of the whole cathedral.

The chapter-house, exactly similar to that at York, already described,† like it forms an octagon, the roof of which is supported by a pillar in the centre, composed of several slender pillars united to-

* Fiorillo, p. 298.

† Vol. I. p. 124.

gether. Round this pillar there is a common deal table, at which the workmen were paid their scanty wages of one penny per day, when the cathedral was built in the year 1220!! The windows are filled with painted glass, and above the niches, that run under them, in the same manner as in the chapter-house at York, there are bas-reliefs, the subjects of which are taken from the Bible. Some of them are still in very good preservation, and deserve an attentive examination as remarkable remains of the sculpture of the thirteenth century. The cloisters surround a square grass-plat, in which a group of fine old lime-trees forms a delightful shade.*

Besides the cathedral, Salisbury contains several smaller churches; St. Thomas's, built by Bishop Bingham, as a chapel of ease to the cathedral, is a stately building, even when compared with it. In the interior of this church, the roof, which is of wood curiously joined together and painted, is deserving of particular attention. A large altar-piece, by Guest, a member of the Royal Academy of London, representing the Transfiguration, is distinguished for nothing

* Compare Britton's *History and Antiquities of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury*. London, 1816, 4to. with 31 plates and 3 wood cuts, of which one by the masterly hand of Thompson, represents the exterior of the Chapter-house. The bas-reliefs of the interior are given in plate 23. Lewis has admirably engraved a view of the cathedral from the west side, after a drawing by Buckler.

but the colossal or rather gigantic size of the figures. The drawing and colouring are equally indifferent. In the course of our walk, we visited two other churches in the parish of Fisherton, on the other side of the river, over which there is a handsome stone bridge; also a smaller country church in the same neighbourhood. On returning through the town, we passed Mr. Whitechurch's large malting-house, which covers a considerable surface of ground. There is a beautiful garden richly stocked with trees, belonging to the brewer, close beside the malt-house. Salisbury is very amply provided with hospitals for the sick and poor, in proportion to its population (about 8000 souls), there being no fewer than three, viz. St. Nicholas' Hospital, founded by Bishop Poore, (who was likewise the founder of the cathedral), a large building of four stories, with battlements, situated at the entrance to the city from Old Sarum; the Trinity Hospital, founded in the time of Richard II., and the large hospital for the sick at Fisherton.

In order that we might visit the country-seats of Wilton House, Wardour Castle, and Fonthill Abbey, which lie further to the west, and if possible, Stourhead also, we left this town after a stay of one day, about eight o'clock in the morning, and in half an hour reached Wilton, about three miles distant. This place, which was formerly of considerable importance, and which, even in latter times, was in a very prosperous state from its thriving carpet-

manufactories, appears now to be very much decayed, and exhibits but few signs of animation. The market-place is very pretty. A few splendid and substantial houses in the town appear to belong to the proprietors of the carpet manufactories. Close to the town stands Wilton House, the celebrated seat of that friend to art, the Earl of Pembroke; whose treasures have already been, and hereafter probably will be, frequently described. This collection undoubtedly occupies one of the first places among those of Great Britain, and hereafter, when the place where they are kept, which has lately undergone so advantageous a change, shall be open to the public, it will appear in a still more favourable light. No admission is at present allowed to visitors on account of the repairs which are now carrying on. We also met with a refusal at first; but on our stating that we were *foreigners*, the housekeeper immediately admitted us. The earl and countess were absent, at Maubeuge, on a visit to Count Woronzow, the Russian commander-in-chief, brother to the countess. Part of this edifice has been entirely rebuilt, viz. four apartments, the great entrance-hall, the room for the collection of antiques, the dining-room, and the library. The entrance-gate, through which we passed into a spacious court, is ornamented with a copy in stone of the famous equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, as if to indicate what is contained within, which, from the

height of its station, has a very fine appearance. By a side passage we reach a large and lofty square hall, ornamented in the Gothic manner, and surrounded by a gallery, from which two or three steps lead to a higher gallery containing the antiques.* The family arms (as is usual in the houses of the English nobility), appear in every direction. When we entered the hall, a scaffolding which had been used by the workmen, was still standing in the midst of it.

There are four excellent statues, rather larger than life, in the corners of the hall, which is built and decorated in the Gothic style, viz. an Antinous, an Apollo, with one hand placed over his head (probably likewise an Antinous), a Faustina (very like the beautiful Roman matron from Herculaneum, at Dresden), and a Pantheon, or statue of a male deity, with the combined attributes of Bacchus, Vertumnus, and Ceres. There is also a bust of Alexander.

The antique gallery goes round a square court, and the statues are disposed in narrow passages in the four sides of the square. The bas-reliefs are built into the wall, the statues stand before them; the sarcophagi are placed between the statues, and the busts are placed opposite to them, on the other

* Compare Kennedy's Description of the Antiquities and Curiosities in Wilton House. Salisbury, 1769, 4to. with 25 engravings, which will be found sufficient, as the collection has not been since augmented.

side, on stands along the walls, in the intervals between the windows. The upper part of the windows by which the gallery is lighted, are filled with paintings on glass. The first remarkable peculiarity in the gallery to which our attention is turned from its having been so often described and alluded to, is the *Ara* of Bacchus, with the inscription alluding to that deity :—

ΜΕΛΠΟΜΕΝ ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΝ ΑΓΛΑΟ-
-ΜΟΡΦΟΝ
ΒΑΚΧΕΥΤΟΡΑ ΞΑΝΘΟΚΑΡΗΝΟΝ.*

On this stands the urn of Horace, in all probability modern, with the inscription quoted by Kennedy, and repeated by Goede; near it is an excellent statue of Sabina, in a sitting posture; further on a Muse (probably an empress), standing, the drapery remarkably light and beautiful; a sarcophagus, with the bas-relief, that has been so much praised, of Niobe and her children; (which, if it did actually belong to the sarcophagus, from the indifferent manner in which its ornaments are conceived and executed cannot be very old); a bust of Lucan,† with a modern inscription; the celebrated bust of Brutus, the expression admirable, the head however

* It is written in much more antique characters, which I will not attempt to imitate here, as the inscription is to be found in various other places.

† Kennedy, p. 65.

replaced; an Amazon, rather less than life, with a modern inscription; a statue of a Faunus, the upper part ancient and uncommonly beautiful, the lower part, the loins and legs, modern, and very indifferent; A sarcophagus above the chimney-piece,* found at Athens, dedicated to a certain Aurelius, by an Antonia Valeria; a beautiful bas-relief of Etruscan work, representing Bacchus carrying a goat on his shoulders; a bust of Cassandra, very probably a young Augusta;† a beautiful bust of Agrippina, of good workmanship, although sadly mutilated; a colossal head of Sesostris, in the style of the Egyptian idols, the pedestal highly singular, in the form of a right angled triangle; the trunk of a gladiator, or discobulus (lying on the floor); a bas-relief, consisting of two parts, the lower a drunken Silenus, surrounded by taunting boys and Bacchantes, the upper Tritons and Nereids, sporting around Venus and Cupid, on the sea; a small statue of Cybele, the trunk old, and of white marble, the head and hands of a black stone;‡ the bust of a bearded Bacchus, in the catalogue called Timolus; an Isis, kneeling, and holding a small figure of Osiris to her bosom, with hieroglyphics round the pedestal, the hands of peculiar workmanship, and the stone a

* Dallaway on Sculpture, p. 314. † Kennedy, p. 66.

‡ See a similar statue in the Augusteum, where it is called the Ephesian Diana, tom. I. p. 88.

blackish granite; Hercules and Antœus, a plegma, as it is called, or group of wrestlers, much mutilated and badly restored, the ancient parts very beautiful; a reclining Bacchus, with an Amphora between his knees, apparently of a very ancient period (about one foot and a half high); a beautiful bas-relief of Meleager and Atalante; a Bacchus, with the Nebris, of no great value; a very remarkable bas-relief, kept very flat, of a young warrior sacrificing to Jupiter for a victory, with an inscription, in Boustrophedon, or alternately from right to left, and from left to right;* a small bas-relief of Jupiter and Juno, and on the other side a procession; a very remarkable ancient half-raised Mosaic work, representing Hercules standing in the garden of the Hesperides, and Aegle standing before him (his dress, and the upper part of that of the nymph, are of red stones, her lower dress of green; the fruits are of several colours, and round his head he has a golden *vitta*, also Mosaic, from the Arundel collection);† a small bas-relief, the subject of which has not been ascertained, but is probably a new-married couple sitting at table, to whom some persons are bringing a ram, for the purpose of being sacrificed; a sleeping Nereis,

* The English Antiquaries will not allow this work to be genuine. See Dalloway's Anecdotes of the Arts in England. p. 268.

† See Kennedy, p. 20, who likewise gives a drawing of this remarkable work of art.

not badly executed. A great many stands for busts were yet empty, and a vast number of busts were lying in disorder on the floor. The written catalogue of the antiques, with which we were furnished, was far from being skilfully executed, but is nevertheless to be printed, when every thing is placed in proper order.

The rooms containing the pictures, the next considerable part of the collection, still exhibit all the splendour of the middle or rather the commencement of the last century, which suit admirably with the works of art, and the places where they are contained. I shall here also mention the articles which appeared to me the best.

In the first cabinet, Francis II., and Charles IX. of France, by Zucchero, small pictures, but executed with great purity; Democritus, by Spagnoletto, a whole length figure, very much in the manner of the Archimedes at Corsham House; a beautiful picture of the taking down from the cross, by Albert Durer, the dead body of Christ and Mary weeping over him, the back ground filled with a number of figures excellently drawn, the person of Mary very like that of the picture at Hamilton, this picture is glazed; John de Witt, by Caspar Netscher, animated and highly coloured; a Madonna and Infant Christ, said to be by Raphael, but if really by him in his earlier and dry style; an old picture painted in 1377, in the reign of Richard II., and separated into

two divisions, the one representing the king at his devotions, surrounded by St. John the Baptist, and the Sainted Kings, Edmund, and Edward the Confessor; and the other, the Holy Virgin, attended by the Christian Virtues, to whom Richard is praying.* A sketch for a portrait of the Duke d'Epernon, on horseback, by Vandyke; a Madonna by Sasso Ferrata, innocently looking out from a garland of flowers, the latter by the masterly hand of Mario de' Fiori; a Holy Virgin, by Carlo Dolce, most probably a copy, at least, it is much inferior to that at Blenheim; a portrait of Mieris, by himself, characteristic and excellent; a small landscape, by Claude Lorraine, about two feet and a half high, and one foot and a half wide, not extraordinary, and rather vacant; the Virgin teaching Christ to read, by Guercino; two small hunting pieces, by Wouvermanns, finished in a very extraordinary manner; Sir Thomas More, by Holbein, a present from the artist to the Pembroke family; a Holy Family, by Schidone, small, but executed with great exactness, like most of his other pictures; the Dusseldorff Gallery, by Frank Floris, a large picture, nearly four feet long, in which the separate figures are executed with great purity; a Holy Virgin with the child, by Albano, a cabinet-piece, in his usual soft manner, but unfortunately, cracked in the middle; a sketch by Buffalmaco; a Holy Family, by Raphael, the Ma-

* It is engraved by W. Hollar, and dedicated to Charles I.

donna sitting by the cradle of Christ, Elizabeth behind her, and an angel standing beside the cradle ranging the clothes.

The room which contains the last mentioned pictures, has also the famous picture by Rubens, of Christ and three children, St. John the Apostle, an Angel, and a little girl, three quarter lengths, as large as life, a noble work, painted with a tenderness unusual with Rubens, which throws many of his other productions into the shade; the expression in the faces of Christ and St. John, is extremely fine.* It contains also a painting by Annibal Caracci, the soldiers parting the garments of Christ, a large picture, painted with great animation, the different figures displaying the strongest and most impassioned expression; Prince Rupert, by Titian; Edward VI., a small picture, by Holbein, the king is in a singular old English dress, with many bunches, &c.; and the Rape of Dejanira, in Poelemberg's style, by Crespi.

There are several portraits by Vandyke, in the last small apartment before the great hall. The Countess of Castlehaven, a half length figure, not remarkably well painted, the dress very formal, and the flesh yellow and repulsive; Vandyke's portrait of himself, in the Dutch-Spanish dress, a real master piece, executed with so much spirit and nature, that we are unable to tear ourselves from it, becoming still more

* It has been engraved at the instance of the well-known traveller and connoisseur, Sir Richard Colt Hoare.

attached to the creator of so much excellence, from the view of himself; Philip, the second Earl of Pembroke, also by Vandyke; an ancient picture from the Temple of Juno,* representing seven deities, Pallas, Hercules, Diana, Apollo, Ceres, and Vertumnus, standing beside each other, Juno is sitting near the Temple; the whole is very stiff, but still highly remarkable, and well deserve to be engraved.

The great room, or hall which adjoins this cabinet, is undoubtedly the most splendid apartment in Wilton House, and may be about 80 or 100 feet long, and 60 feet wide. A costly carpet, manufactured at Wilton, displaying the most beautiful colours, covers the floor, and there are two noble tables, one of lapis lazuli, and the other of red Egyptian granite, five feet in length, and two feet wide, standing against the pillars, or intervals between the windows, to which mirrors are affixed of one piece, six and a half feet in height, and four and a half feet in breadth. This hall is every where ornamented in the richest manner with gilding and statuary, and the ceiling contains the arms of the family, with the old French motto, "*un je servirai.*"† The ceiling itself, is filled with a large fresco painting, by Tommaso, taken from the

* But where? This is no place stated.

† Most of the old noble families of England, have French mottoes on their scutcheons, derived from the time of the Norman conquest.

story of Perseus, of no very distinguished excellence. The greatest ornament of this room, is the collection of paintings by Vandyke, with which the walls are hung. The principal piece among them is the large family picture, occupying the whole of one side, from the door to the end of the room opposite to the entrance, twenty feet long, and twelve feet high, which is said to have been painted by Vandyke, in this very apartment; it represents the family of the elder Philip, Earl of Pembroke, and forms two groups; the one of twelve, and the other of three persons. The principal figures in the first group, are those of the Earl and his Countess seated, with their five sons standing on their right, and their daughter, and her husband the Earl of Caernarvon, on their left; and their daughter-in-law, wife of their eldest son, Lord Charles, and daughter of the Duke of Buckingham standing before them. The group of three persons, consists of the figures of two sons and a daughter, who died at an early age, who are represented as hovering in the clouds. It cannot be denied, that this picture is upon the whole very stiff, but it must be considered, that so much life, cannot be thrown into a family picture, properly so called, as into one where the moment in which a particular and definite action is taking place, is selected for representation. It is evident that Vandyke has exerted all the art of which he was master in the production of this work, and there are some

figures which separated from the rest could not fail to excite undivided admiration.

The disposition itself, which is not the most masterly, is essentially injurious to the picture; and the idea of representing the three deceased children hovering in the clouds, is every thing but happy. The single portraits of Vandyke, which hang here, are partly half and partly whole length figures, and represent King Charles I., his queen, the Duke of Richmond, and Lady Holland, a whole length figure next the window (one of the most beautiful of all, less stiff than Vandyke's females generally are); and three children of the Pembroke family, with two large dogs, a picture, which in its disposition, bears a resemblance to the inimitable picture by this artist, representing the family of Charles I., of which mention is made in the account of Windsor.

The next apartment at the time we saw it was filled with a number of helmets, coats of mail, &c. all lying in a state of confusion, which in the new arrangements of the house now going on, are intended to decorate the large entrance halls above described. Busts, pictures, engravings, &c. were in great disorder; among the former we observed one, representing the Magician Appollonius of Tyana, with one hand protruding from beneath the robe, an addition seldom found in busts, and highly singular: a sleeping Venus at a little

* Vol. I. p. 7.

distance from it appeared to us a copy. Among the paintings, I recollect I distinguished the two celebrated English beauties, Mrs. Killigrew and Mrs. Morton, by Vandyke.

The library occupies two apartments, one an oblong, and the other an equilateral square room. The former is ornamented in the Gothic taste, with a roof richly adorned with the decorations peculiar to that style, and with painted glass in the windows. It serves as did that at Corsham House, for the family visiting-room. We found the books with paper before them, behind the wire, so that they could not be seen. There is here a beautiful whole length figure of Edward VI. by Holbein. The second room is lighted from above by a glass cupola.

The dining-room is built and ornamented in the manner of the halls in the colleges of the English Universities, so often mentioned. The size of this splendid apartment renders it necessary that the decorations should be on an equally grand scale, and this has been effected by eight or ten of the largest pictures of the collection, which ornament the upper part of the walls, whilst the lower part is covered to the height of ten or twelve feet, with a wainscoting of the most beautiful oak, skilfully put together. I can only recollect two of these pictures, which to me seemed particularly happy: dogs stealing and devouring meat, and a cat watching them, by Snyders, painted in the style of the picture in the last

room of the gallery at Corsham* but inferior in execution to it; and Andromache, fainting at the intelligence of Hector's death, by Primaticcio. This last picture is more than usually large, being at least from fourteen to sixteen feet in length, and containing a great number of figures as large as life.

* See p. 152.

CHAP. VIII.

Wardour—The House—The Staircase—Earl of Arundel's Collection of Paintings—The Chapel—Rubens' Pictures—The Old Castle—The Banqueting House—Return to Salisbury—Longford—Lord Radnor's Collection of Paintings—Claude Lorraine's Pictures—Holbein's large Picture—The Iron Seat—Downton—Romsey—The Church—The Apple Tree—Southampton—The Bar Gate—High Street—The Castle—The Theatre.

From Wilton we proceeded through Favant to Wardour, along the range of hills which divide this part of the country from Salisbury plain. This is a by-road, and consequently very bad. We enter by a sort of hollow way into the park, which though very extensive, is very much neglected, and in great disorder. Wardour House, the seat of the Earl of Arundel, is a stately edifice, in the modern Grecian style, and decorated with a portico of four columns. The front may have about sixteen windows, and two side wings give to the whole a considerable extent. We drove into a large open space in front of the house, laid with gravel, and passed through the

entrance into the hall,* and from thence into a circular room, from which the grand staircase winds, receiving its light from the glass in a high arched cupola above. The architect has produced a masterpiece in this part of the building; for the proportions of the staircase are so well calculated, it is so easy of ascent, and so great an ornament to the edifice, that it might serve as a model for staircases of the same kind in great places, many of which are complete failures. Opposite to the entrance into the room, and in a gallery at the end of the staircase which runs round them, stands an organ, and the sound of this instrument reverberating from the dome, and diffusing itself through such a wide space, must undoubtedly produce an astonishing effect.

The apartments are in the usual style of a respectable private house, and are hung with pictures. Their number is not sufficiently considerable to merit for the collection the name of a gallery, but the lover of art will find several distinguished pictures among them. Among these, in the first room, there is a Holy Family, by Andrea del Sarto, after Raphael; forcible and brilliant, the figures as large as life, and very well grouped, as is usual with this painter; Joseph interpreting the Dream to his Brethren, by Murillo; the Child Jesus sleeping on the Cross, by Titian; an inexpressibly sweet picture, in which the

* It is ornamented with plaster of Paris casts of two beautiful antique candelabras.

innocence of the reposing infant is expressed in the purest and most tender manner; two large pictures, by Nicholas Poussin, the one, Joseph in Egypt, and his Father before him, and the other another incident in Joseph's life, the figures three-fourths of the natural size; two beautiful sea pieces, by Svanevelt. In the next apartment is Lord Falkland, by Vandyke, in his usual manner; and opposite to him, a master-piece of Rubens, Hugo Grotius, whose features express all the intense seriousness of that remarkable man; two Churches, an interior view, by P. Neefs, executed with great purity (the organ in one of them might at a distance be taken for a pen and ink drawing); two pieces, which to judge from their manner, are by A. Caracci, of the Holy Virgin dying, and the laying of Christ in the Grave, the fore shortening of our Saviour's body, masterly;* a small picture, by P. Breughel, representing Peasants and their Wives, at a Festivity.

In the dressing-room there are two other pictures, by Svanevelt, which are worthy of their master. We forget them however immediately, when on entering the next apartment we get sight of the large picture by Gerard Dow of Tobias going to the door to meet his Son. This picture, one of the largest that Dow ever painted (about six feet in width and

* It is entered in the catalogue under the title of the "Miraculous Tomb." Goede describes this picture under the name of Spagnoletto, vol. III., p. 129.

four feet high), excels in expression, strength, and brilliancy, and in short in every requisite essential for producing effect in a painting, all that I had hitherto seen by the hand of this master. The serenity in the face of the venerable old man, his joy at again seeing his beloved son, expressed in the movement of his body, are exhibited with a degree of truth, of which it is only possible to form an idea when viewing this picture.

The sitting-room, which had probably been quitted only a few moments previous to our entrance, by the earl's two daughters,* who reside in the castle, as we found books lying open on the sopha, and every thing in a state which announced that the room was in constant occupation, contains mostly landscapes, among which there are two beautiful little pieces, by L. van Uden, painted with great purity, and three larger ones by Vernet; one of them a view of Tivoli, and the two others views probably painted from fancy, and perhaps among his best pictures.†

* The earl, their father, who is since dead, very seldom resided here, but generally lived the whole year through, either in the metropolis or at watering places, on account of the gout with which he was afflicted.

† With the exception of an excellent picture by this master, which I recollect having seen in the very select collection of the deceased M. Peehwell, gallery-inspector at Dresden; representing a Storm at Sea, with several Vessels tossing about.

A Sea-Coast by Moonlight, of uncommon effect; and a Shipwreck, which for perfection is in no wise inferior to the other. Two pictures by C. Netscher, the one of Moses striking the Rock, and the other of the Israelites gathering the Manna, well drawn, and not badly coloured, are deserving of a few moments attention.

On the walls of the chapel,* which is spacious and superbly ornamented, there are five large pictures by Rubens, representing incidents in the life of Jesus. We saw them from the choir, into which we enter from the apartments in the castle, and consequently were not in the most favourable spot for viewing them accurately. The colouring appears to be less powerful than in the other pictures of this master. The altar-piece, likewise by Rubens, represents the taking down from the cross. The window above it is filled with modern painted glass.

From the castle, we proceeded through the park towards the ruins of the old castle of Wardour, which lies in the park, at the edge of the wood. These venerable remains of antiquity, when seen from the windows of the sitting room, looking out on that part of the park in which they are situated, present an agreeable point of view; the dark leaves of the trees forming an uniform back ground, which sets off the brighter colour of the building.

* The family of Arundel is of the Roman Catholic persuasion.

The ruins stand in the centre of a garden, regularly laid out, and intersected by serpentine walks, which from the care and attention bestowed on it, and the natural beauty of its lofty trees, is a most enchanting little spot. This castle seems to have formed a regular, or an oblong square, having towers of the same description at the corners. The front is yet in tolerable preservation, three or four broad stone steps lead to the entrance, which is ornamented with two pillars; beside there are are two smaller windows, and above them two larger ones. The hall windows of the towers are double, and separated from each other by a thin stone pillar. In the interior we found a large hall, or chapel, still in perfect preservation, especially the roof, which is quite uninjured, and a staircase leads to the apartments in the upper story, some of which are also still in good condition. The interior court is exactly square, and rather small, and is surrounded on all sides by masonry, appearing to be kept clean, and with great attention; a well in the middle of it is filled up. All the outer walls of the building are clothed with the noblest ivy from top to bottom; this renders the appearance of these romantic ruins doubly attractive, and pleasingly harmonises with the surrounding verdure. At a few paces distance from the castle, on the borders of a small lake, stands a small modern Gothic building, called the Banqueting-house, consisting of a long room, with several small cabinets, from which there

is a fine prospect of Wardour House over the lake. The room is hung with a collection of prints, representing ancient towers and castles in England and Scotland, as likewise with some large pictures of gardens (I believe by Zuccarelli), and the windows are ornamented with painted glass. In the garden a grotto cut in the rock, from which there is a view of the castle, affords a cool and grateful retreat.

Our plan of visiting Fonthill Abbey, the seat of Mr. Beckford, about five miles from Wardour, was frustrated by the real or pretended weariness of the horses, alleged by our postillion. To see the lofty steeple of this superb Gothic building, which had so often been described to us as one of the greatest architectural curiosities, nay, even as the first of its kind, distinctly before us in the distance, and yet to be unable to get to it, was more than painful. Mr. Beckford, who since his return from Portugal (where he resided several years at his country house of Mont Serat, near Cintra, built by English architects whom he took over for that express purpose), has lived in retirement at Fonthill, here dedicates his whole time to science.

The select library of Gibbon the historian, which has been purchased by Mr. Beckford, and still remains at Geneva, will it is said, shortly be brought over to England, and placed by its present owner in the splendid library, of about 200 feet in length, which occupies nearly the whole length of the

building, and when added to the considerable literary treasures already collected by Mr. Beckford, will form altogether, one of the first private libraries in the kingdom. It is said to be a matter of great difficulty to obtain admission to the house, and that the possessor expressly excludes every Englishman, for certain reasons. A strong and high wall runs round Fonthill.*

By eight o'clock in the evening we were again in Salisbury, which we left next morning to go to Longford, the seat of the Radnor family, about three miles to the south west of Salisbury city, and which on account of the collection of pictures it contains, it was necessary to visit. As at all country seats of this kind, we drove through the park up to the house, situated in the centre of it, and which, to judge from the style of architecture, must have been built in the course of the seventeenth century. An open gallery with arches runs before the second story, and the whole building has a heavy appearance without being striking from its size.†

* See the description of the dwelling house, properly so called in Goede, *Th.* 5. p. 113. *ff.* and a beautiful resemblance of it in Angus' views, fol. 50. The abbey was then just bogun.

† It is, however, to be entirely rebuilt, and we saw the timber-work for the new house lying in order at a small distance from it. The side buildings are already newly erected.

As at the time of our arrival the family were assembled at morning prayers, which were performed in the chapel adjoining the picture-room, in the second story, we were requested to wait in the great entrance-hall until divine service was over. This hall, a lofty apartment of an oblong square form, is ornamented with some casts of the most distinguished statues, such as the Apollino, Mercury, the Venus de Medici, &c. which are placed in niches. We had waited but a few minutes when the housekeeper came to inform us that she was ready to show us the curiosities of the house. We accordingly followed her, and entered first into the billiard-room in the lower story, decorated with portraits of the ancestors of the present earl, the Bouveries, &c., which however are of little value as works of art. On leaving this apartment, a winding stone staircase conducts to the upper story; the little square windows through which the light falls on the staircase, being filled with good glass paintings.

From the first small room, we entered we could see through an open door into the chapel. It is circular, very low, and surrounded with seats; and the roof, from the Gothic ornaments in it, which are overloaded with gilding, gives a heavy appearance to the whole. The room first-mentioned, a small low cabinet, with two windows, contains some very attractive little paintings; as for example, a beautiful landscape by Wynants; Nathan telling

David, "Thou art the man," by Rembrandt; the Adoration of the Magi, an excellent little round picture, by Albert Durer; Sir Anthony Denny, the chamberlain and favourite of Henry VIII., by Holbein; four most delightful little landscapes, two of them by Collet, and two by Fery, almost in miniature, the figures executed with wonderful neatness; two very beautiful little landscapes, by A. van Uden; and a very expressive picture of Tobias anointing his father's eyes, by Spagnoletto.

The second and larger apartment, which is lighted by three windows, is entirely filled with masterpieces, and we may indeed affirm of this comparatively small, but most select gallery, that it does not contain one single ordinary picture, or one that is not above mediocrity. I must first notice the far-famed pictures of Claude Lorraine, representing the fall of the Roman empire, and its foundation, or the arrival of Æneas in Latium.* They are exactly of the same size, are executed in the same manner as far as the difference of subject would admit, and if I may presume to form an estimate, are of equal value. The exhibition of the distinguishing properties of morning and evening, the sea and ships in the first picture, the architecture of the portico in the second, are all executed in so admirable a manner, that nature was never represented with greater truth

* They are likewise known by the name of the symbolical evening and morning.

and beauty. We went backward and forward from the one to the other of these exquisite pieces,* which hang opposite to each other, and always discovered in them fresh beauties. Next to the evening, there is a large landscape by Rubens, of the Escurial; the wild and desert appearance of the country around it, is represented with frightful fidelity, and the whole is executed in the usual broad manner of that artist. We may next mention a picture about four feet high and two feet and a half broad, Venus disarming Cupid, said to be by Correggio, but even if not by him, a most fascinating and tender composition, inimitable in point of colouring; the Martyrdom of St. Stephen, by Michael Angelo and Sebastian del Piombo (the body admirably drawn), but how the two artists shared the work between them, I cannot venture to say. There is a noble picture by Holbein, probably the most beautiful he ever painted: it is ten feet wide and seven high, and represents two men at full length, standing on each side of a table, covered with globes, astronomical and mathematical instruments, books, &c. the person standing on the left side, a stately figure, wears a short light red, old German dress, edged with white fur, and a chain with a medal on his breast; the one on the other side is in a black dress, with brown fur, and of a very intelligent contem-

* The landing of Æneas is extremely well engraved by James Mason.

plative aspect. That the one must have been prince, and the other a scholar, is perceptible at the first glance; but it was not stated who they were in the printed catalogue given to us. If the picture were not by Holbein, who died in 1554, these figures might be supposed to be the Emperor Rudolph II.,* a lover of science, and particularly of astronomy, and our immortal countryman, Kepler, for the figure of the prince exactly corresponds to that of Rudolph. The figures and every thing else are painted with a bold and clear pencil, and the picture is in as good preservation, as if it had only within a few days been taken from the Easel. The following pictures are between and beside the windows: a Magdalen, by Guido, a small piece painted with softness, and well worthy of the name of Guido; one of Rubens' sons, by Rubens; a portrait of Adrian Pulido Pareja, admiral and commander-in-chief of the celebrated Spanish Armada, by Velasquez; the portrait of Erasmus of Rotterdam, by Holbein (a masterpiece purchased by Lord Radnor from Doctor Mead's collection); the portrait of Father Aegidius, a friend of Erasmus, by the same artist.†

In the next, or drawing-room, there is a good (probably an Italian) copy of a Holy Family, from Raphael, hanging over the chimney-piece, which, as far as I recollect, is the only picture in the apartment;

* Rudolph was born in 1552.

† Fiorillo, Vol. II. p. 390.

but the adjoining bed-room makes ample amends for the deficiency, in which, as being the last room, every thing admirable seems to be united, though one would rather have wished to see the same pictures placed in one of the front rooms, for in this, they want the proper light. Here are, the Duke of Alba on horseback, by Rubens (a study probably painted by him for his larger picture of the same person); a Painter, holding a drawing with a Spanish inscription, said to be by Carlo Dolce;* Luther, in a black dress, by Holbein, beautifully painted, but most probably when the Reformer was still young; Oecolampadius, also by Holbein; Sir Anthony Denny (a second portrait), in a green dress, very characteristic, and probably also by Holbein; the portrait of a man in a black dress, by Titian (the name not stated in the catalogue: he wears a sword, and in one hand holds an antique head in marble, representing a Lucretia, it probably is his own portrait, or at least that of some other artist, the execution is excellent;) the Four Seasons, by Bassano; a beautiful little landscape, by Hobbema; and the Holy Virgin with the Infant, by Jean de Maubeuge (in his usual dry style, the Virgin wholly in an old German dress.) But the greatest ornament of the room is a picture by Albert Durer, which I have no hesitation in pronouncing one of the most beautiful ever painted by that master: it is seven feet high and five broad,

* It can hardly be by him, as it is not known that there is a single portrait by that master.

and represents an adoration of Christ. The Virgin is sitting in serene majesty on a throne, holding the Infant Jesus on her bosom, a Saint with a sword kneels before her, two Angels are hovering in the air, on each side of the throne; St. John is standing as a boy, with the lamb, before the Virgin, and on her right are two female figures, who are viewing the whole. The composition, colouring, keeping, and execution, of this charming picture, all combine to render it a real jewel, and from the very favourable position it occupies near the window, the spectator is enabled to examine and analyze its numerous beauties.

I must finally notice another German work of art certainly unique in its kind, in the central picture room, with three windows. This is an arm chair made of iron, and highly polished, quite in the old German form, with crossed feet, and arms projecting in four directions; the back part being ornamented with figures beautifully cut in the iron, which for masterly execution far surpass the works of the celebrated iron cutter, Leybege, preserved in the museum at Berlin. The back consists of three parts, a broad frame, in the manner of a frieze, one narrower above it, and a square one resting on the latter, surmounted by foliated ornaments, &c. The lower broad frame is entirely filled with the most admirable figures, arranged in groups, representing a Roman triumphal procession, all of them standing free, and not as alto, or basso relievo; the middle one contains a similar,

but smaller group, Daniel expounding the mystical words to Belshazzar; and the upper one, Christ, as the Saviour of the world; small figures of warriors are disposed on the four corners of the back, which is entirely covered with handsome half raised ornaments. By what accident this most excellent piece of workmanship was brought to England, and came into the possession of Lord Radnor, we could not learn.*

We left Longford about ten o'clock in the morning, with the conviction that a more select gallery than the one above described, is scarcely to be found in England. Our road proceeded through a richly cultivated country, in which we passed several country seats, one of them New Hall, the magnificent mansion of Mr. J. Th. Batt, a most splendid palace-like mansion, surrounded by a large park, particularly attracted our attention. Longford, with all its recent additions, of which we had again a view, appeared very picturesque in the distance.

* Mr. von Stetten affords a solution of this difficulty, in his History of Augsburg, p. 498. The chair stood in the Chamber of Art at Prague, and became the booty of the Swedes when they took that city in the thirty years war. It then came into the possession of a noble family in Sweden, who parted with it to a Mr. Brander of London (from whom Lord Radnor may probably have purchased it). The maker's name Thomas Rucker, and the year in which it was made, 1574, are engraved on one of the corners.

We could only see Downton, a small, but very pretty little town, in passing through it. On the other side of that place, we drove across the meadows to fall again into the high road, which to us, who had been travelling several hundred miles on stone roads, gave rise to a feeling, quite strange and unusual.

Our next station was Rumsey, a pleasant little town, situated on the Test, which flows through it towards Southampton Bay, into which it enters. The most remarkable object in this town is the church, which is built nearly without any mixture in the Saxon style, and may be considered one of the classical monuments of the more ancient architecture in England. Of the seven pillars and arches on which the vaulted roof rests, four are pure Saxon, the others are Gothic, and in all probability have been substituted at a later period for old Saxon ones. The two galleries above them are also Saxon. The two windows (which instead of one large one), give light to the west, belong it is said to the reign of King Stephen (1150). The nave is narrow in proportion to the great height of the church, and the whole appears to greater advantage from the total absence of all kind of ornament, whence the colossal size of this venerable building seems the more striking. On a platform covered with lead, over the west window, grows an apple tree, which when we were there, was in full bearing with a rich crop of fine

red fruit. The oldest inhabitants remember to have always seen this apple tree here.' That the sexton would not permit me to descend without allowing me to taste one of the apples, which I found to be really of excellent flavour, may be easily supposed.

Not far from Rumsey lies the country seat of Lord Palmerston, the secretary at war; an edifice in the Greek taste, with a portico, and all the necessary appendages, surrounded by a beautiful park. The nearer we approach to Southampton, the more thickly the road is lined with country seats; from the simple and agreeable manner in which they are built, and their painted exterior, mostly yellow, we are prepared for charming Southampton; with which they are connected in an almost uninterrupted line.

Southampton, one of the most frequented bathing places in the south of England, consists of two parts, the Old and the New Town; the latter of which appears to be chiefly indebted to the visits of bathers for its existence, and even at present is mostly inhabited by them. It consists of one straight and very wide street, which has the favourite name of all the principal streets in the smaller towns (the High-street), where we put up at the Coach and Horses inn. A balcony before the windows of our apartment on the second floor, afforded us a wished for opportunity of seeing the bustle in the street, which from the many gay equipages of the nobility and

gentry now residing here for the benefit of bathing, and from the number of well dressed persons who seemed to have chosen the High-street for their promenade, exhibited a scene of the utmost variety.

The Bar-gate, an old Gothic gate, a remnant of the ancient fortifications of the town on the land side separates the Old Town from the New. Towards the more modern part of the High-street it has two semi-circular towers, at both ends, furnished with stately battlements, and over the middle arch is decorated with a receding frieze, in which are the arms of several considerable families in Hampshire.* At both sides of the arch of entrance stand two brass lions, of good workmanship, in an erect and threatening posture, a circumstance which heightens very much the romantic appearance of the whole. That side of the gate facing the sea has been modernized in latter times, and the statue of King George III. is placed in a niche over the entrance. Beyond the gate the High-street continues to run of the same breadth as before, in a straight line towards the sea, which it approaches by a gentle descent. On both sides of the street are splendid shops, taverns, coffee-houses, &c., and the pretty but narrow front of All Saints' Church, adorned with four Ionic pillars on the left, not far from the gate, proves the desire of the inhabitants to embellish their town by elegant edifices. A cross street, down

* The county within which Southampton is situated.

which we turned to arrive at the sea side, brought us to a row of houses, built in good taste, situated at the eastern extremity of the town, forming the uninterrupted view over the fields to the sea, which they command, must afford great delight to their occupants. The remains of the ancient fortifications towards the sea, must render the view of this side of the town, when seen from the water, very picturesque. We ourselves passed through a strong square tower, towards the High-street. Another cross street turning to the right, opened to us a view of the sea towards the west. Here also are to be seen the ruins of the old walls of the fortifications, on which the new houses stand very securely. The castle projects far out into the sea, and its proud appearance immediately determined us to visit it. It was purchased several years ago by the late Marquis of Lansdowne, who caused it to be enlarged in its original style, and repaired such parts of it as were capable of being made fit for use. It has probably come recently into the possession of another owner, whose plans do not harmonize with those of its former proprietor, for we found a number of workmen employed in pulling down the large newly-erected entrance-gate towards the town, and the buildings adjoining it. In the evening we went to the theatre, where a company of actors perform, who in a regular circuit visit Portsmouth, Chichester, and Winchester, and then return to Southamp-

ton. The house is small, but extremely elegant, without being overloaded with decorations. It contains two rows of boxes, a gallery, and a spacious pit. We saw several little musical entertainments performed for the benefit of Miss Hughes, a singer and actress from Covent Garden Theatre, who by her endless flourishes, and imitations of Italian vocal ornaments, endeavoured to move the audience, in which she was very successful. The actors belonging to this company were by no means of the worst description, and some of the male performers exhibited a considerable share of talent.

Most gladly would we have visited the ruins of Netley Abbey, which have been described as so very romantic, and which are only four miles by water, from Southampton, a visit to which we were repeatedly invited by the numerous boatmen along the shore; but we were obliged to husband our time for an intended visit of more consequence to the Isle of Wight and the boat for that place was to go off the following morning.

CHAP IX.

Passage to the Isle of Wight—Southampton Water—Calshot Castle—Cowes' Castle—Cowes—Newport—Departure for Appuldurcombe—The Worsleyan Collection—Library—Pictures—Antiques—Drawings—Steep-Hill—View of the Sea—Nighton-Sand-rock—Spring—Hotel—Return to Southampton.

On the 5th of September we left the delightful Southampton, in the packet-boat, which sails every other day from this place to the Isle of Wight. It was called the Hope, a very neat clean vessel, and a prime sailer.

We had been told to be in readiness by eight o'clock, and we therefore breakfasted in great haste in order to be at the harbour in good time, but were not however called on until nearly half an hour after, because the mail with the letters and packets for the island, on the arrival of which the departure of the boat depends, had come in later than usual. Southampton, when viewed from the sea, has a very pleasing appearance, with its two or three steeples, and the small vessels lying along the shore. The eye, however, is most delighted with the view of the country houses on both sides of the bay, or, as it is called, Southampton Water, which, from the variety of architecture and situation, and the beauty

of the shores covered with underwood, furnish incessant occupation for the eye. The wind not being favourable, we made but slow progress down the bay. On a neck of land on the western side, where we enter the straight which divides Hampshire from the Isle of Wight, stands Calshot Castle, a small fortress, consisting of a modern round Gothic tower, with little square windows, and a *lunette*, or small half-moon battery, with a few pieces of artillery in front. Shortly after passing Calshot Castle, we have a distant view of Cowes, the northermost harbour in the Isle of Wight, and first distinguish the fort, which, like Calshot Castle, is merely a round tower, with a simple half-moon battery in front.* The town of Cowes itself is amphitheatrically situated on the slope of a hill. The houses towards the sea are of a light yellow colour, and those further up the ascent, which are half concealed by trees, rise densely above each other, to the very summit of the beautifully verdant hill, producing a most pleasing impression. The Marine Hotel, from its inscription in letters of a foot in length, first attracts our attention; but whether the interior neatness corresponds with the striking exterior, I cannot say, as all the passengers landed at the modest looking Vine inn.

The river Medina, which rises in the island, and

* Several of the forts erected along the coast for its protection, are of similar form and construction; such are those at Harwich, Deal, &c.

here enters the sea, runs through the town, and divides it into two parts, called East and West Cowes, of which the latter is the largest and most populous, and is at the same time frequented by those who resort to Cowes for sea bathing. Even from a distance we discover the bathing machines to the number of five or six on the shore, and as in all the bathing places in England, they are drawn, into the sea by horses, to such distance as the bathers may require, where they are then left. Behind these machines we perceive a number of elegant country houses, whose white colour, is contrasted with the blackness of the slate roofs; and the pleasant green of the little wood, on the border of which they are situated, completes the loveliness of the prospect. East Cowes derives much additional beauty from the majestic Norris Castle, standing on the brow of the declivity, which was built in the Gothic style for Lord Henry Seymour, by that able architect, whose premature death was so great a loss to his country, Mr. B. Wyatt;* and also from the elegant villa of the architect Nash.†

* He lost his life in a very unfortunate manner. Returning from Bath to London in a post chaise, the vehicle was overturned, and he died in consequence of the fall.

† The present fashionable architect in England, of whom mention has been made in speaking of Corsham House, and who has latterly gained a great name by the plan of Waterloo Place, opposite to Carlton House, in London.

After breakfasting at West Cowes, we set off by the mail for Newport, the chief town in the island; the interior of Cowes does not correspond to its exterior, the streets being narrow and crooked. At the end of the town lies West Hill, a very pretty country seat, with a large garden, which formerly belonged to General Whitelock, so well known for the unfortunate expedition to Buenos Ayres, but which was sold by him shortly after the termination of his trial, and now belongs to a Mr. Fazakerly. It is said that the general's excellent library was sold with the house.

This island is extremely well cultivated, and all kinds of grain are derived in abundance from its fruitful soil. On the left of the road, which is kept in very good repair, we perceive the public work-house; an excellent building, to which, by an arrangement worthy of adoption in other parts of England, all the poor of the island are sent; and thus the inhabitants, who contribute a certain annual sum towards its support, are freed from one half of the oppressive poor's-rates. The house is capable of containing 700 persons, and has a large garden. On the right, at a small distance from it, lie the barracks for the garrison of the island, consisting of a great number of brick built houses of one story in height, forming regular rows, between which run very wide streets, used for exercising the soldiers in. The whole at a distance resembles a

town, but painfully reminded me of the camp of the French, in 1808, in the vicinity of Berlin, to which it bore a striking resemblance.

Newport is a very pleasant and regularly built town, where we experienced a good reception at the best house, the Bugle inn. We took care to inquire as soon as we arrived how we could obtain a sight of the celebrated Worsleyan collection at Appuldurcombe, and in a short time were furnished by the landlord with tickets of admission, which are given out by Mr. Sewell, one of the persons who has the charge of the villa, who resides at Newport, our names being inscribed at length on the tickets. We immediately quitted Newport, and proceeded in a post chaise across the island in a southern direction to Appuldurcombe, which lies about three quarters of a mile from the southern coast. The road led us between thick hedges and through rich corn fields, past Pidsford and Godshill. The ruins of Carisbrooke Castle, with their massy round towers, picturesquely situated on a rising ground to the right, did not escape our notice. Most willingly would we have paid a visit to this place, which has become so memorable from the long confinement of Charles I. there, but our limited time would not admit of it. We could now also discern the obelisk in Appuldurcombe Park.

We drove through a simple gate into the park, and shortly after arrived at a kind of triumphal arch,

where we were obliged to produce our tickets. The house, which is situated in a hollow, has a very splendid appearance. It has two stories and an attic. The principal front faces the south, while the entrance is on the west side, under a newly erected Doric colonnade, and at each end it has two projections, ornamented with four Corinthian pillars and a pediment.

We first enter a large hall, from which ascends the great staircase to the apartments of the upper floor, which are fitted up as dwelling rooms. This hall is ornamented with several portraits, and the statue of a priestess of Diana, standing on a pedestal on which there is a Greek inscription of five lines.* There is another small marble statue opposite to it. The pictures that adorn the hall are, a good copy of Raphael's Parnassus, by Tresham; John Kemble, as Brutus, as large as life, by Lawrence, an exceedingly fine picture; Roxalana, the mistress of Selim I., by Gentile Bellino;† a copy from Guido's Ariadne and Bacchus, by Mengs; a Holy Family, by Schidone, and a taking down from the Cross, by Daniel de Volterra (a copy). On the left of this hall is the entrance to the library, arranged in two rooms,

* This, like all other inscriptions in the Worsleyan Collection, may be found in the undermentioned Museum Worsleyanum.

† This painter was a long time in Turkey, and a particular favourite of the Sultan Mahomet II.

which is very select. It contains principally works on the arts of sculpture and painting, in several living languages. We likewise found here a most superbly bound copy of the Description of the Collection, at present become so very rare (a few copies only having been printed, which were given away as presents by the proprietor of the collection), that it is sold at an enormous price;* a copy of the equally rare description of gems belonging to the Duke of Marlborough, in two volumes, Latin and English; a list of the inscriptions collected at Rome by the celebrated dealer in antiques, Mr. Jenkins, &c.† The library is also ornamented with several pictures, among which are two original pictures of Holbein. One represents Edward VI. as a child playing with a rattle, and the other Henry VIII., which is esteemed one of the best portraits of that monarch, by whom it was given to Sir James Worsley, governor of the island, and ancestor of the present proprietor, on a visit paid by him to the Appuldurcombe Park. Over the chimney-piece in the breakfast-room, which con-

* It appeared under the title of Museum Worsleyanum, or a Collection of Antique Basso-relievos, Busts, Statues, and Gems, with Views in the Levant, taken on the spot, in the years 1785, 1786, and 1787. London, 1794, fol. 2 vol. with many plates. In the catalogue of J. and A. Arch of London, it is marked at £130.

† Catalogo di Monumenti scriti del Museo del Sig. Tommaso Jenkins. Rom. 1787, 4to.

tains the other half of the library, there is a very remarkable painting, by Vandyke, being a kind of confused assemblage of objects, consisting of a Scarf, a Sword, a Lute, a Globe, and a Book, with the painter's portrait drawn in it, and the inscription, A. van Dyke, all lying in strange disorder.

From the library we proceeded straight across the hall to another apartment, which was likewise filled with pictures. Among them we noticed a pleasing landscape, said to be by Claude Lorraine, with three Pines in the back ground; a beautiful little Holy Family, by Dominichino; and an excellent picture of Berghem, representing the artist himself, as a hunter, with his dog.

In the parlour there is a beautiful and powerful portrait of an old Dutchess of Lorraine, by Rembrandt; and an admirable portrait of Pope Alexander VI., by Titian, bought at Granada.

The dining-room is adorned with two large well executed landscapes, by Zucarelli; the one a view of the mountains of Verona, and the other a view of some place in Italy; and a large landscape, by Salvator Rosa.

From the dining-room, we went into the large room, the ceiling of which is supported by four columns. The greater part of the fragments of antiquity, of which drawings are exhibited in the above mentioned work, are placed here. They were collected by the late Sir Richard Worsley, during his

travels in Italy, Spain, Greece, Asia Minor, and Egypt, in the year 1785, 1786, and 1787. From the windows of this room there is a delightful view of the country, the corn fields, of the island, and the environs of the house, and there is a neat little garden, laid out in the Dutch taste, with a fountain in it, immediately in front. The two most remarkable pictures in the collection, are also to be found here. The one is an Annunciation, by Guercino (painted in the year 1629, and sold by the Brotherhood of the Holy Cross at Reggio.) It is divided into two compartments; in the one we perceive the angel with the white wand, and in the other is the Virgin, kneeling, opposite. A large excrescence, of a semicircular form, contains an inscription. The other picture is a masterpiece of Tintoret, the Consecration of a Bishop, with the portrait of Pope Paul III., who acts as consecrating priest: the figures are as large as life.

The following are among the most remarkable of the antiques here. A group, Bacchus and a Youth, on which he is leaning, but of which the trunks only are old, and remarkably soft and beautiful; a Cupid slily drawing his bow, perhaps a copy of the famous bronze statue of Praxiteles;* the busts of Alcibiades and Sophocles, both found in 1785, in

* Vide Dallaway on Sculpture, p. 352, and the view, Plate 13; a similar one is in the Townley Collection, and at Wilton.

the ruins of the Prytaneum of Athens, the workmanship excellent: a Torso of a female figure, with a veil thrown over the head (said to be one of the Muses, but most probably a Roman matron), placed on a beautiful bas-relief, representing Bacchantes, the hind part of which has an inscription on it, and was, in all probability, at a late period used as a funeral monument; a bas-relief, with two figures stretching out a hand to each other, with the inscription ΚΑΦΙΣΙΩΝ; an ancient *Ara*, with an inscription, intimating that it was dedicated to Bacchus; a model of an ancient Galley; an excellent bas-relief, inserted into the wall, under the above-mentioned picture, by Tintoret, representing an ox destined for sacrifice, decked with the vitta, and with a rich sacrificial binding over the body, from the collection of the Duke of Caraffa, at Naples. Under it there is a small bas-relief inserted in the wall, representing a Priestess standing. In a closet in the wall are several small busts and other smaller antiques; among which, one with the name of Hermacus on it, and a small alto relievo of a sitting Juno, are particularly distinguished for their high antiquity. An ancient door-knocker, found in the year 1787, at Herculanum, which had been fastened to the door of the large room was, when the latter was painted, also covered over with paint, so that the form only could be distinguished. In a small cabinet adjoining the large room, we found from

twelve to eighteen bas-reliefs fixed in the wall, all of which were found at Athens. Among them we particularly remarked, Jupiter and Minerva, to whom an Athenian family are offering their prayers and vows; a bas-relief, found in the Island of Paros, representing a young Female holding two Doves in her hand; the doors of an ancient marble tomb, with marble rings to open them. It is, however, exceedingly difficult to distinguish correctly all the bas-reliefs in this chamber, as it is rather lofty, and most of them are inserted close to the ceiling. There are likewise several drawings in water-colours, by the celebrated landscape painter, Turner, executed in Greece, under the eyes of Sir Richard Worsley. Among these I was struck with a large view of Athens from the north-east side, with the islands of Aegina and Salamis, taken in 1785; as also a view of the south-west side, with the Acropolis, and some small views of Athens, Eleusis, and Corinth. On leaving the house, we took a walk into the park, in order to view the obelisk on the top of a hill, which the late owner had erected in memory of his grandfather, Sir Robert Worsley. This obelisk, which is about seventy feet high, is constructed of a kind of reddish granite from the county of Cornwall; and the hill on which it stands, is one of the highest points on the island. From it we enjoyed a noble view over the greater part of the island. In the vicinity are seen the artificial ruins of what is called

Cooke Castle, very picturesquely situated on a rising ground, and at a greater distance, the genuine ruins of the romantic Carisbrooke Castle. In the remote distance toward the east, Gosport, the suburb, and Spithead, the shipping station of Portsmouth, are indistinctly seen; as also farther north, the coast of Devonshire and Portland island; while to the south, and close beneath us, we see the picturesque Steep-Hill, Nighton, and the channel, which separates England from France, all united as it were in one picture. The rich vegetation of the island, the corn fields with their green enclosures, the various colours of the different kinds of corn, the cattle grazing in all directions, and the prosperity every where visible, all concur to render this one of the most charming pictures in the united kingdoms, and to make the spectator regret the moment when he must tear himself away from it.

In the park, which we found in a very neglected condition (as the present owner, Mr. C. A. Pelham; who had married a niece of the deceased Sir Richard Worsley, very seldom comes here), there are a number of noble oaks and beeches; but our attention was more attracted by the sight of a herd of six or eight hundred fallow deer, which were either feeding on the green carpet-like meadows in the vicinity of the house, or lying in various groups around the villa itself.

From Appuldurcombe we proceeded to Steep-Hill, in the southern part of the island, which is close to the sea. The view of the sea in all its extent, with its various tints from the dark green along the shore, to the pale blue along the horizon, melting imperceptibly into each other, produced here the same impression on me which it had done at Dunbar on the eastern coast of Scotland; but with this difference, that the coast of the Isle of Wight, on account of the bold and jagged cliffs which every where rise from the sea, is more picturesque than that of Scotland. Steep-Hill, belonging to the Earl of Dysart (a Scottish peer), is properly speaking merely a cottage, and is fitted up internally quite in the plain country style. A great curiosity in it is a collection (probably the only one of its kind) of marine pieces, pictures which could not be placed any where with more propriety than here, where we can view reality and the imitation at the same moment. Among this collection, amounting probably to from sixty to eighty articles, I was peculiarly struck by two noble pictures, by Van der Velde; one of which, hanging over the chimney in the dining-room, and representing the foaming sea breaking against the rocks, is certainly one of the best works of that master. From the arched windows of this room we have a fine view of the picturesque rocks towering above each other, which here, and all along the south side of the

island, project boldly into the sea. A small clear delightful rill, trickles close before the window into a basin, and may be seen from the room, contributing to heighten the delightful and truly Idyl-like appearance of this inviting spot.

On the eastern side of the house is a small flower garden, laid out in the old regular style, richly furnished with the various productions of Flora, and favoured by the mild climate of the island. Here, on a tolerably high stone pedestal, stands a large antique marble vase, with a bas-relief on it, representing as far as I could understand it, a Bacchanal; but exposure to the weather has rendered several parts of it unintelligible. At the back of the house there is another garden, in which we admired a beautiful bower of fig trees, that must afford a very delicious retreat in hot weather. Having seen ripe peaches growing against the houses in the open air in this island, it was with great astonishment we learnt that however rich the foliage of the fig-tree, the fruit seldom if ever ripened. This may probably be occasioned by the vast quantity of rain which falls on the island. The way to Steep Hill leads through the garden, and our conductor hastened to bring us to a most romantic spot, to which we ascended through walks covered over in the manner of arbours. A bench is placed under a bold projecting rock, and here we seated ourselves to enjoy the prospect, with the threatening rock sus-

pended over our heads. Three avenues had been cut through the surrounding group of maples, which opened to us a full view of the adjacent country. Beneath us lay the delightful straw covered dwelling of the earl; beside us the trees and hedges of the garden succeeded each other with the most agreeable diversity of colour; and before us stretched the wide sea, spread out in an interminable plain, and lighted up by the evening sun. Calm, and agitated only by little curling waves, the noble watery mirror opened itself to our view. No object that could injure the effect of the picture was to be observed on the surface of the majestic flood; a solitary brig of war only, at a great distance, was hurrying on with full sail, as if unwilling to disturb the grandeur of the view. We descended by unhewn stone steps to several other points, whence we still had a view of the sea in all its glory, between trees thickly overgrown with ivy, which however were far from being in a situation so romantic, as the spot we had just quitted.

We next proceeded to Nighton. The bold and rugged chalk rocks along which we proceeded, hanging almost completely over the road; with fern, nearly as high as a man, growing on both sides. Not far from Steep Hill, we come to St. Lawrence's church, one of the most ancient churches in England, and at the same time one of the smallest, being only eighteen feet in length and twelve feet

wide. Its form is quite simple, like that of a small village church in Germany; an oblong square, without steeple, or any other distinction.

We stopped a short time at the Sand-rock Spring Hotel (so called from a spring which rises near it). This simple rustic house, of only one story, is situated on a hill, and adorned with an elegant Gothic portico, which however, like the whole of the building, is evidently in a state of decay. All the rooms are on a level with the ground, and that into which we were shown, was decorated with several large pier glasses on the wall opposite to the entrance, in which the adjacent country, and particularly the sea, is most picturesquely reflected. A neat garden, laid out on the declivity of the rock, affords a most agreeable walk; and from a stone seat, to which we ascend by a serpentine walk, we have another view of the sea, which never tires the sight here.

After an hour's stay at the hotel, we returned to Newport. The road passes several pretty country seats, which we could not distinctly observe, on account of the increasing darkness. Wilkes, the famous opposition member, once possessed a villa in this part of the island, where he resided for several years.

Early next morning we left Newport in the stage coach. The harbour of Cowes, when seen from the land, appears if possible still more agreeable than

from the sea, because we have a much better view of the vessels lying at anchor from the hill. It being Sunday, their flags were all hoisted; and as the day was clear, the variety of their colours heightened the cheerfulness of the scene. Among other vessels, we were shown a Russian ship, laden with French wines for the emperor's table, and several Danish vessels. The concourse of passengers bound for Southampton, and of persons visiting the different ships, and passing to and fro in boats, was very great; and the fine clear weather, which had this morning succeeded to several cloudy days, gave an excellent zest to the pleasure we had derived from this charming excursion.

At ten o'clock in the morning, we returned by the same passage boat in which we came, to Southampton, where we arrived after a short and pleasant passage of two hours, and at twelve o'clock continued our journey to Fareham.

CHAP. X.

Fareham—Gosport—The Harbour—Buildings in Gosport—Haslar Hospital—Its interior arrangement—Portsmouth—The Dock Yard—The Gun Wharf—Town of Portsmouth—Ships of War—The Nelson—The Rochfort—Departure from Portsmouth—Chichester—The Cathedral—Collins's Monument—The Town Walls—Arundel—The Church—The Castle.

With regret we quitted the delightful town of Southampton. On our road to Fareham we met with what is very rare in England—two wooden bridges; for in general, whether bridges are thrown over very small rivulets, or even over canals, they are built of stone. The first was over the Itching at Northam, and the other over a kind of Lake at Bursledon; and both from their appearance, must have been of recent erection. Fareham is a neatly built little place, of the inhabitants of which are chiefly occupied in making ropes and other shipping materials, for the neighbouring town of Portsmouth; it has numerous visitors in the summer season for the sake of

sea bathing. We passed through the town on a Sunday, and therefore saw a number of well dressed people going to church; a sight which, on account of the uncommon cleanliness of the dresses of the country people, had frequently given us great pleasure on similar days. Between Gosport and Fareham, were much struck with the singular appearance of a villa lately built, which was half Gothic and half modern, but we were unable to learn the name of the owner.

At the entrance of Gosport stand the handsome and spacious barracks for the garrison, consisting of three houses of three stories high, connected with each other by arches, with guard houses in front of them. We entered Gosport through a gate in the wall, very similar to those in many of our German fortresses. Every thing about us, announced immediately that we were in a strongly fortified place; and the great number of soldiers whom we met gave strength to this impression.

From the balcony-window of our inn (the India Arms), we had a fine view down the spacious main street, to the harbour at the end of it, in which, however, there was not much bustle on account of its being Sunday; but we perceived a number of well dressed people walking on the quay. The view of the harbour, with the ships of war in it, and the opposite town of Portsmouth, with its towers, batteries, and fortifications, was extremely grand; but

we could not long enjoy it in quiet, from the incessant importunity of the sailors offering to take us to the ships of war, or to Spithead. Next to the ships, we were most struck with the great hospital at Haslar, an institution for sick and wounded seamen. It is erected on an island, to which we cross over from Gosport, and comes in view immediately on approaching the harbour. Just as we reached the shore, a ship of war was entering the harbour, which saluted the batteries, and was again saluted by them, when the thunder of the cannon was repeatedly echoed in a very surprising manner. We could not see the hospital, it being Sunday, and as the officer who had the command for the day was absent, and the governor was at table. To the left of the hospital, and opposite to Portsmouth, are barracks, defended by a small redoubt. The town did not appear to me to be strongly fortified on the side seen by us. Whole rows of bathing-machines were drawn up along the line of the fortifications.

Gosport is small, but contains some considerable buildings; among which, one of the principal is the Free Mason's Lodge, in the same street with our inn. In an evening walk we had an opportunity of observing the motley swarms of soldiers, marines, and seamen, who towards the close of day assembled in numbers on the quay, to which spot they were attracted by an uninterrupted row of well-lighted gin-shops, and the frail fair ones who fre-

quent them; with whom, as it is well known, the sea-ports in England abound.

Early in the morning of the next day, we saw a blue flag waving from the top of the town-house at the bottom of the street, and close to the harbour. This, as our landlord informed us, was a signal permitting the watermen to take double fares on account of stormy weather. The weather was indeed very rough and disagreeable, of which we were soon feelingly convinced on our passage to Haslar hospital.

At ten o'clock we crossed over to it. The commanding-officer received us very politely, and after obtaining the governor's permission for that purpose, ordered a centinel to show us the interior of the hospital. This edifice, three stories in height, and built of brick, forms a square, three sides of which have double wings, and are fitted up for the reception of the sick, but the fourth, which is opposite to the entrance, contains the church, or chapel, and the governor's house, separated by iron rails from the other buildings. All the rooms, from the reception-room to the apartments for the sick, are kept exceedingly clean; and the air throughout the whole edifice, is nearly as pure as that without doors. The hospital contains 115 wards, each of which holds 15 beds, and is attended by two nurses. The lieutenants, and other subaltern officers, sleep in tester beds; but the common men sleep in

open ones. Printed directions for the nurses are stuck up on every door, that the patients may know they have proper attention paid to them according to the regulations.

We were particularly struck with the large stores of lime-juice in the cellars of the hospital for the use of the fleets, which is mixed up with water, and distributed among the crews as a preventative against the scurvy. The cellars, which run under the whole building, are filled with this article, and one single cellar contained no less than 6650 bottles; the greater part of these were lying piled above each other, but many of them were already packed in cases, each containing eighteen bottles. The juice is brought in large casks from Messina and Smyrna. In the hospital there is a salt-water bath for the patients, the water for which is brought in casks. The property of the patients is secured in a particular building, where every person's clothing, &c. are regularly numbered. The hospital was almost empty when we visited it, containing only ninety-five patients, but it is said to have been very full at a former period, especially during the war in Portugal and Spain, when a great number of wounded soldiers were also received into it.

In about an hour afterwards, we crossed over to Portsmouth, with the Prussian consul, Mr. Nichols. As soon as we set foot on the opposite shore, we repaired to the dock-yards, which were on our left, to

see the celebrated Block-machinery; that is to say, the buildings wherein the pulleys on which the ships' ropes run are cut and bored, and completely finished, by means of steam-engines; a mechanism which we had heard described, as very extraordinary, when at London; but notwithstanding all the endeavours of our friend, we could not obtain admittance, which is uniformly denied to all foreigners, without exception, and the overseer, to justify his refusal, produced to us the written orders he had received from the Admiralty to that effect. We met with better success in our request for admission to the Gun-wharf, or Magazine of Artillery, although it was not effected without long and urgent application on the part of our friend.

To the right of the entrance stands an elegant building of two stories high, called the Small Armory, or store for small arms, which was not shown to us, and before which are planted a number of mortars in regular order according to their size. Among these we noticed two very large brass ones excellently cast and richly ornamented, one of them decorated with the English arms, and the other with the initial letters of the name of the Master of the Ordnance. All around we saw nothing but rows of cannon, and pyramids of balls, from forty-eight pounders down to two pounders. Most of the guns, however, were for the shipping, Portsmouth being the arsenal for the navy, as Woolwich is for the land-

forces. Several Spanish brass cannon of heavy calibre, which had been taken and sent by the Duke of Wellington, were lying in a separate row; as also some Dutch guns, remarkable for the uncommon neatness and purity of the cast. There seemed no end to the rows of carronades which were here placed before the artillery store-houses, although the clumsy form of this gun is not agreeable to the eye. Here we also saw the mortars for the spheroidical bombs, invented some years ago by Colonel Shrapnel; but they either could not, or would not, show us the bombs themselves, although I had an ardent desire to see them. We were struck with a number of small brass guns which lay about here, and on asking how such small guns were used, we were told that they were the private property of captains of ships, who, when their vessels were paid off, left them in the arsenal to be taken care of.

From this place we took a walk through Portsmouth. The high street is distinguished as being the longest and the finest, and that in which the best inns are situated, especially the elegant George and Crown inn, which however is noted for its exorbitant charges. Passing the guard-house (near to which is the governor's house, where the King of Prussia and the Emperor of Russia alighted on their visit to Portsmouth), we proceeded to the batteries. The greater part of the artillery on the works is of iron, and of heavy calibre.

As the sea was running very high, the waves frequently broke over the bastions, and covered not only the artillery, but every thing upon them with the surf. The fortifications extend around the whole of the town, but particularly round the external part of the peninsula on which Portsmouth, properly so called, is situated, while Portsea is built farther inland. On the walls are several pleasant walks, especially on the east side of Portsmouth, where they are planted with a double row of trees. In the vicinity of this alley we saw several very elegant houses, which in case of an enemy's fleet approaching the works, and cannonading the town, would fare very ill. From Portsmouth we crossed by three bridges, closely following each other, over the river to Portsea, the streets of which are very narrow and dirty, and full of bustle.

After viewing Portsea, we entered a boat in the harbour to visit one of the ships of war. As it was now a time of peace, we found the harbour full of trading vessels. The English ships of war which we saw there, were the Rivoli (a very beautiful eighty-gun ship, taken from the French), under the command of Captain Ogle; the Rochfort of eighty guns, under Sir Archibald Dickson; the Vengeur, of seventy-four guns; the Boyne (the admiral's ship), of ninety-eight guns, under Sir Edward Thornborough; and several other ships which had been paid off, and were consequently unrigged. Besides

these English ships of war, there was also a Dutch ship of the line of seventy-four guns, called the Brabant; which, if I am not mistaken, was bound to one of the Dutch colonies, and had probably put into this port for the purpose of being repaired.

We went first on board the admiral's ship, that could not however be seen to the best advantage, being under repair, on which account a part of her guns had been taken out. In consequence of the rough weather they were obliged to strike their main mast, which employed not less than fifty persons, both seamen and marines. We saw a collection of a curious kind on the part of the deck called the forecastle, of all the different flags used on board the ships. Each of these had its separate repository, on the door of which the flag contained within is painted. We could not view without astonishment the enormous cable with which the ship is fastened to the anchor, twenty-two inches in circumference and seven inches in diameter, which run along the whole length of the ship under the upper deck.

From the Boyne we proceeded on board the Nelson, the largest ship in the English navy, mounting 126 guns, and being 244 feet in length. We found it incomplete, as the upper parts of the masts were not put up, and the guns were not yet in their places. This ship has been built with the greatest care, and both the exterior and interior were decorated in the most superb manner. The stern is ornamented with

figures of Nereids, &c., whilst the prow is adorned with the bust of Nelson, supported by figures of Fame on each side.

Below the bust on one side appears in gilt letters on a blue ground, the last address of the brave admiral, at the battle of Trafalgar "*England expects every man to do his duty.*" and on the other side, the names of the places where he gained his principal victories. The admiral's cabin is wainscotted with the finest kinds of wood. The frame of the wood-work which supports the deck, is of Indian oak, or teak-wood, but the wainscotting is of the most beautiful Brazil-wood. There is a handsome winding staircase with mahogany balusters in the inside of the ship from the dining-room to the [illegible]; whereas in other ships it is necessary to go out of the cabin, and ascend an open stair, to get to it. From the captain's state cabin we proceed immediately into an open gallery, a convenience to be found in none of the old ships, which spares the captain the trouble of going upon deck to enjoy the fresh air.

From the Nelson we next went on board the Rochfort, where we met with the same kind reception as on board the other ships; and the first lieutenant, as he was busied in seeing the masts taken down, and could not himself conduct us round the ship, gave directions to a midshipman to attend us.

We found every thing on board this ship in the

most complete order; the two upper decks were mounted with eighteen-pounders, and the lower deck with thirty-two pounders. It was a curious sight to see men and women sitting in motley crowds on moving benches at moving tables, between the guns, eating, drinking, laughing and joking. In the gun-room we saw some small brass guns of rather diminutive calibre, which are generally put on board the boats when they are manned for a cruize, or to cut any small vessels out of an enemy's harbour; there were also an elegant Danish metal six-pounder, two small French guns, with the motto, "Liberté et Egalité;" some Spanish howitzers, and several tomahawks or battle-axes, for cutting the ropes of an enemy's ship in boarding. In the store-room we saw several pumps, and other works of iron, large quantities of brass nails, which being loosely driven into the sides, formed a variety of words and figures; iron spikes, screws, &c. the latter being carefully deposited in drawers, on which the names and qualities of the articles contained in them were correctly and elegantly marked. Both the rooms were lighted with crown lamps depending from the ceiling; and wherever we turned, every thing displayed the utmost order and regularity. In the repositories where the stores are kept, we saw a number of casks, all neatly painted, and each bearing an inscription descriptive of its contents. The midshipman who had conducted us round the ship, after having shown us every thing worthy of

notice, introduced us to some of his messmates who were sitting in their birth and playing at draughts; they received us with great civility, and treated us with wine. In the course of conversation they informed us of a singular fact, namely, that of all the French ships taken at the battle of Trafalgar, there were now very few fit for service, the French having built them in too great haste, and not with sufficient solidity.

At six o'clock we quitted the Rochfort, and after proceeding round the Victory, Nelson's flag-ship, on board of which he fell at the battle of Trafalgar, returned to Gosport. The weather had during our stay become so rough and tempestuous, that a flag was flying from the main mast of the admiral's ship as a signal that no boats were to come from, or depart to Spithead.

On the 11th of September we left Gosport, to return to Fareham, and from thence to continue our journey eastwards. Before coming to Porchester, we perceive the remains of the old castle, which consists of a large square tower and several smaller ones, connected with each other by walls, and which in time of war was used as a place of confinement for French prisoners. Viewed from it, Portsmouth, and especially Spithead, with its forest of masts, lighted up at the time we saw them by the sun, appeared to great advantage. On Portsdown Hill to the left, between Porchester and Havant, stands a splendid

obelisk, lately erected to the memory of Lord Nelson; and not far from it a telegraph, belonging to the line extending from the Admiralty at London to Portsmouth, by means of which intelligence may be conveyed between these places in eight minutes. Behind Havant we see the few remaining ruins of Warblington Castle, half concealed amidst trees.

Proceeding through Emsworth, about noon we reached Chichester, an agreeable and well built little town, containing about 5000 inhabitants. Immediately after our arrival, we hastened to view the most remarkable object in the place, the cathedral, of which the high pointed steeple may be descried at some distance. The church itself is neither so large as that at Salisbury, nor is its spire so high.* But with regard to ornaments, the steeple of Chichester is in no degree inferior to that of Salisbury. The cathedral consists of three parts; the porch, and the church, properly so called. The side aisles of the choir are Gothic, but the nave is in the pure Saxon style, with heavy round arches which support two galleries, one above the other. There are the same kind of Saxon arches under the steeple, which is placed where the four aisles of the church meet, and its central point is distinguished by a brass plate

* The height of the steeple at Chichester is about 300 feet; whilst that at Salisbury as above-mentioned is 410

fixed in the floor. The seats for the canons, and the bishop's seat, are of wood, curiously ornamented with carved work, painted brown, and here and there richly gilt; but as there is no pulpit in this part of the church, the members of the chapter, as well as the congregation, must repair when the sermon commences to that part of the church which is fitted up for that purpose; unless when the service consists merely of morning or evening prayers. In the southern division of the central cross aisle, there are on the wall, two colossal pictures, in oil colours, painted in the year 1519, by Th. Bernardi, at Amsterdam, each being about twelve feet long and eight feet in height. The one represents the Transfer of the Episcopal See to Chichester, under William the Conqueror, and the other the Grant of certain Privileges to the Cathedral, by Henry VIII. Both paintings are above mediocrity. The figures are as large as life. Opposite to them we see a series of portraits of the Bishops of this See, as also of the Kings of England in the same style.

Among the sepulchral monuments there are several distinguished ones from the masterly hand of Flaxman, and especially one of the famous Poet Collins, who was a native of this place. He is represented sitting, and absorbed in thought. At his feet lies open his celebrated Ode to Pity. Not far from the church stands a large square isolated steeple,

having turrets on each of its four corners. It contains the bells belonging to the church.*

We now hastened to take a walk along the town walls, which are still in very good preservation, whence there is an extensive prospect of the neighbouring country, which is well cultivated, but has rather a sameness of appearance. Enough of the old wall has been left above the walk to serve as a balustrade, without confining the prospect. A noble row of strong old lime trees runs along the walls. Where the streets open towards the wall, there are stairs leading down to them. On our return we had an opportunity of viewing the market cross, in the centre of the town, where the two principal streets cross each other, which was erected by Bishop Storey, in the year 1478, and which is one of the most beautiful in England. It is an octagon, and is formed of eight arches. The ornaments are light, and elegantly wrought in stone. It is a pity however that the whole is disfigured by the vanes which are fixed on every one of the projecting points.† From Chichester we proceeded to Arundel. The country all round is rich in wood, which is most picturesquely disposed, especially on the left of the

* See a Series of Views of the interior and exterior of this Cathedral, the Bell Tower, &c., in the Antiquarian Cabinet, Part 6.

† See a very good view of it in the Antiquarian Cabinet, Part 6.

road, and forms an excellent fore-ground for the numerous magnificent mansions, which appear partly behind, and partly among the trees, in an almost uninterrupted line. Among these, Goodwood, the seat of the Duke of Richmond,* is particularly distinguished, though it is so much concealed that we can only discern the numerous domes which rise above the trees. Not far from it we perceive Slindon House, a very large building, painted of a pale yellow colour, the numerous windows of which we could perceive very distinctly. It belongs to the Earl of Newburgh. Dale Park, the seat of Sir Robert Thomas, is the third great building which we see in this line. There are also several large parks on both sides of the road.

It was three o'clock when we arrived at Arundel. The town lies at the foot of a hill, not far from the influx of the river Arun into the sea, which we can distinctly see at a distance of about two miles. We went up the wide and clean High-street, and saw on our right, at the top of a hill, Arundel Castle, the majestic mansion of the Duke of Norfolk, and the church on our left. The latter, a middle sized Gothic edifice is in no wise remarkable, and is very simply decorated in its interior; but the adjoining eastern chancel is very rich in this respect, and nobly overgrown with ivy externally, though it has been suf-

* See an uncommonly elegant view of it in the Royal Repository for 1818.

lowed to fall so much to decay (a thing almost unheard of in England), that one cannot view the building without feeling indignation against those whose duty it is to take care of it.* All the curiously carved wooden seats are lying scattered about on the ground; the monuments of the noble and ancient family of the Earls of Arundel (of which there are several here) are half destroyed by damp; and every thing evinced that full power had been here left to the hand of time. We are particularly struck by the monument in the middle of the church of the fifth Earl of Arundel, and his consort, a Princess of Portugal by birth, very handsomely ornamented with twenty-eight figures of Saints, neatly wrought in stone, which surround the sides. The monument of John Earl of Arundel is executed in a very singular manner. On the upper part lies the Earl in full armour, and on the ground below he is represented as a skeleton. Fragments of carved work in wood are seen scattered about in every direction.

From the church we crossed the street to the castle, but were not admitted into it; the present Duke of Norfolk,† having as we were told by the

* See Pennant's Journey from London to the Isle of Wight, vol. 2, page 91.

† Nephew to the late duke, who died in 1816, and who, as hereditary Earl Marshal of England, was at the head of the Herald's College.

person in charge, given express orders that it should not be shown to any one without his permission. This person offered however to show us the park, and we accordingly accepted his offer and viewed it. We were first conducted through several serpentine walks to a building called the Iron Tower, standing on a wide plain. It is an octagonal Gothic edifice, built of black and white stones, whence we were told there was a beautiful prospect. An immense herd of 1000 or 1100 head of fallow deer, which the late duke, who was a great lover of the chace had increased to that extent, were feeding on the plain, and around the tower. The view from the top is not bad, especially towards the south, in which direction we see the steeple of the cathedral of Chichester and the Isle of Wight (the latter however at a great distance). The castle is here concealed by the tall and thickly planted trees of the park; but in order to obtain a more correct view of it, we went through the park to the foot of the rising ground on which it is situated.

The view of this grand edifice is striking beyond all description. The whole is in the Gothic style. Battlements run all round the edge of the building, as likewise along the wall which surrounds it, and separates it from the high road. The very extensive library (as I was informed by an intimate friend of the late Duke) occupies the whole of the eastern side. The dining-room has four large Gothic win-

dows, entirely surrounded with ivy. The state-room is in a square tower, projecting from the buildings, and has a noble large arched window, filled from top to bottom with paintings on glass.* Close beside it is the kitchen, with two large windows, which is certainly singular enough. The story above these apartments is appropriated as lodging-rooms for visitors. All the embellishments of this castle were the work of the deceased duke, who expended vast sums on them, and thereby rendered it one of the most beautiful edifices in England.

* Most of these Paintings were executed by Egginton: I saw the models of them in his shop at Birmingham.

CHAP. XI.

Worthing—Gigs—Circulating Libraries—The Steyne Hotel—Brighton—The Steyne—The Pavillion—The Stables—The Marine Parade—Wellington Lodge—West-Cliff—Circulating Libraries—The Theatre—Lewis—Cuckfield—Tunbridge-Wells—Tunbridge—Seven-Oaks—Knowle—Antiques and Paintings—London.

From Arundel we continued our journey to Worthing. For a considerable distance we still enjoyed the view of the castle, which, with its haughty battlements, towers high above the town. The road, as on the other side of Arundel, continues extremely pleasant; and the succession of villages along the sea-shore, with their pointed church-steeples, forms a most romantic contrast with the clear sky, and the ocean spreading widely out in the back-ground. There are several pretty houses in the approach to and in the pleasant village of Broadwater, through which we passed.

Worthing is a bathing-place, which within a short space of time has risen from a miserable fishing-village to a pretty little town. Those who dislike the constant noise and bustle of Brighton, come here to

enjoy the sea-bath in quietness, and the smooth and soft beach forms also an irresistible attraction. We saw a great number of large bathing machines along the shore, as also innumerable gigs (two-wheeled carriages), partly drawn by donkeys and partly by horses, which are let out for a quarter of an hour, or longer—in these the visitors drive along the sea-side. It was amusing to see four asses harnessed like post-horses to a carriage, and driven by two boys as postillions, proceeding at a brisk rate along the shore with a company of gay young girls.

The great source of entertainment at all English bathing-places, namely, the circulating library, is also to be found here. Stafford's library is a very elegant building, and the lower story, containing the books, is splendidly lighted up in the evening. Among the inns, the most distinguished are, that called the Sea-house, on the shore (where indeed the neatest houses at Worthing are situated), from which there must be a noble prospect of the water; and the magnificent Steyne Hotel, situated on one side of a large square, with a grass-plat in the centre, opening towards the sea, round which, in damp weather, there is a very pleasant walk, paved with flags, in front of the houses. For every admirer of nature, and those who, as we have already observed, may dislike the bustle of other fashionable bathing-places, Worthing is undoubtedly the most agreeable residence that can be conceived.

The road to Brighton, which is only eleven miles from Worthing, proceeds in a southern direction, passing several beautiful villas (among which I shall only notice the elegant residence of Mr. Pritchard), then runs close along the sea-shore, which now appeared in all the freshness and splendour of the morning light. Brighton at a distance seems a compact group of buildings; and proceeding between the houses and the sea along its high banks, we at last entered the town.

From the balcony of the New Ship inn, in a cross street leading from the sea, we had a beautiful view of the ocean. The ground rises perceptibly from west to east, and the houses in this direction, on account of the bending of the shore, approach closer to the sea and the intervening space becomes narrower. The Steyne is a large place, separated from the sea by a single row of houses, which on three sides is surrounded by buildings, having on the westernmost side the Pavillion, in which the Prince Regent of England usually resides in the fine season. Near this edifice, and on the same side, are several splendid houses, among which, the most remarkable are those of Lady Ann Murray, and Mrs. Fitzherbert, the well-known friend of the Prince. The Duke of Marlborough also formerly possessed a residence on this side of the Steyne, but it was purchased by the Prince Regent, and united to his own. The houses on the south side, among which Russel House ap-

pears conspicuous, are also very well built; but those opposite to the Pavillion, are common private houses, and of disproportionate height. The north side is unoccupied, and opens into the parade, and into the North Steyne, a wide street with an oblong grass-plat in the middle, from which there is a view of the open country.

The Pavillion itself is surrounded by a wall of tolerable height towards the Steyne, so that in order to have a view of the building, we must fall back a considerable way towards the opposite houses. There is nothing pleasing in the appearance of this edifice, which consists of one circular central building, surmounted with a cupola, and ornamented with six columns of the Ionic order, having two wings on each side connected with it. The cupola looks small and insignificant, the columns too thin and diminutive, and the upper windows of the wings, which are smaller than the lower, and half concealed by a veranda above them, and a balcony before them, are out of proportion, and mean looking. Behind the building rises an immense glass cupola, in the form of a Moorish dome, over the stables, which when seen in sun-light has a very fine effect. Proceeding round the park, which stretches to the northward, we come to the stables, which are built of a kind of yellow stone, and not, as it is generally said, in the Chinese, but in the Indian style. On the right side of the great arched door is the riding-house, the

windows of which open towards the street, and in this the Prince, with his attendants, as is well known, frequently take exercise on horseback. We could not see the interior either of the Pavillion or the stables; because the former was at that time occupied by the Duke of York and the Duke of Gloucester; and no admission to the latter could be obtained without special permission from Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, who is at the head of this department of the Prince's establishment.

The public walk, called the Marine Parade, which is formed by the intervening space between the houses and the sea, is very agreeable. At the eastern extremity of it is the Royal Crescent, a semi-circular row of houses, which, however, on account of the balcony windows in each of them, and the slate colour with which they are painted, do not appear to great advantage. Before these houses there is a very badly executed statue of the Prince Regent, in the dragoon uniform, of a yellowish stone, which is already broken in some parts. Farther on we see an elegant place called the New Steyne, opening towards the sea, and on the other three sides surrounded by houses. The centre is adorned with a beautiful grass-plat, and two elegant buildings, which might be termed palaces, namely, Mott's circulating library, and the New Steyne Hotel, are the ornaments of the side looking towards the sea.

A walk which we commenced on the east side, but continued to the north, brought us into the fields, where we found the people busied in reaping. We now ascended the hill at the foot of which Brighton is situated, and immediately were rewarded for our trouble by a beautiful prospect over the wide sea, on which innumerable little fishing-vessels were moving; whilst the town, with its regular divisions lay extended at our feet. Wellington Lodge, a small house at the top of the hill, where refreshments can be obtained, affords an agreeable resting-place for the fatigued walker, and the view of the sea, to be enjoyed from some of its windows, allures many of the visitors of Brighton to breakfast here.

Another walk towards the west end of Brighton, brought us to West Cliff. The fish-market, which at a certain time of the day is excessively crowded, is situated on the steepest and narrowest spot on the shore, where it is washed by the sea. Not far from it is Artillery-place, so called from a small battery, consisting of six iron twelve-pounders, which are placed on a half-moon erected on the shore. In this neighbourhood there are several very elegant houses along the sea-shore; among these Westfield Lodge, Bellevue, &c. are very much distinguished. Bedford-row and Bedford-square, contain as yet only separate houses, but when finished they will contribute very much to the embellishment

of this part of the town. The view of the sea from the shore is truly surprising, especially at full tide, when the sea rages with indescribable fury, and breaks in and foams against the shore. All the bathing-machines then leave the sea, and are drawn up along the shore, and every one hastens to prolong the enjoyment of the majestic scene, by viewing it from the open space before the houses, which is enclosed with a railing. The Steyne is particularly frequented during the two hours before dinner, from three till five o'clock, at which time also Donaldson's library, on the eastern side of it, has most visitors. Here, in a very handsomely ornamented room in the lower story, all the latest productions in literature and art are exposed, and also a number of other trifles and small matters. The same sort of attraction for buyers are to be found at Mott's library, on the New Steyne, and at Walker's, on the Marine Parade, on the shore. At all these places, little concerts are given in the evenings, and card-parties formed, which bring together the beau-monde of Brighton in great numbers.

The theatre, which is very simply ornamented externally, is but small: it contains two tiers of boxes and a gallery: it is badly lighted. The Prince Regent's box, in the first tier next the stage, is separated from the others by a gilt brass lattice. The arms of the prince, with the motto *ich dien* appears on the *proscenium*.

On the 12th of September we left Brighton. It was a fine morning, and all the balconies were filled with people looking through their glasses at the shipping. Several packet-boats, ready to sail for Dieppe, were lying at anchor, and others were arriving from that place; whilst (as it was ebb-tide), the fishermen were every where launching their boats. A number of bathing machines were already in the water; and every thing announced the bustle and activity prevailing at a sea-port.

We drove through the Old and New Steyne. Not far from the turnpike-house, are the barracks for the division of cavalry which forms the garrison of Brighton. The stables are of wood, with windows towards the road. The barracks themselves consist of a row of handsome houses; and the forage-house is a very respectable building, with a steeple to it, not unlike a chapel. The hospital is close beside it; of which all the windows, without exception, are furnished with blinds.*

The next town, Lewes, is a well-built place, situated on the river Ouze, over which there is a lofty stone bridge. One of the most remarkable buildings in this place is the town-hall, of which the portico, of four pillars, makes a very fine appearance. The Gothic entrance to the castle, which was built in the eleventh century, and lies close to the town, is seen

* A proof of medical attention, which to the best of my knowledge, is not to be found any where in Germany.

in one of the cross streets, with the ruins of the castle at a small distance. On a hill close by the town stands a windmill, from which there is said to be a most beautiful view over the country to the sea.

At Cuckfield, the next station, the country becomes hilly, and the road extremely bad, so that on account of the deep clay bottom, we were obliged to take four horses. When near to Tunbridge Wells, we have from a hill a beautiful view of the surrounding country, and see Eridge Castle, a large mansion belonging to the Earl of Abergavenny, built in the Gothic style; it lies in a very romantic situation half concealed amidst trees.*

Tunbridge Wells, the well known watering place, consists only of detached houses, each of which is surrounded by a little garden. The humour of the owners is shown in the various styles of building, affording the most agreeable entertainment to the eye. Each of these houses has its own name, which is marked on the corner of it. Thus we find Oldenburgh-house, Blucher-house, Union-house, Warwick-house, &c.†

Our road, from the Kentish Tavern where we lodged, laid straight across the town, past some high

* See Amsinck's History, p. 59 and 62.

† Amsinck's splendid work of Tunbridge Wells and its Neighbourhood, London, 1810, 4to; containing beautiful engravings, by the equally ingenious and amiable Letitia Byrne, will give the best idea of this delightful place.

granite rocks, which advance into the midst of the road, to Mount Ephraim, one of the three hills which surround Tunbridge Wells. This place is situated about half an English mile from the spring, affording a beautiful view of the watering place, and used formerly to be the favourite residence of the fashionable world, who have now forsaken it for the vicinity of the parade. Two other hills, called Mount Pleasant and Mount Sion, close beside Mount Ephraim, are like it, covered with several detached houses, where lodgings may be obtained during the fashionable season. On the south side of this place, behind the spring, there is a beautiful park, called the Grove, containing a number of lofty beeches and other broad leafed trees, near which is the small modern, but very neat church.

The Parade is little more than a row of shops, with a wooden arcade in front, before which is a row of lofty elders.* This walk is much frequented in rainy weather; but as it happened to be fine at the time of our visit, we found it empty. The spring is at the commencement of the Parade, and its waters are collected in two open basins, under a staircase which leads to a shop. The water is strongly chalybeate, but not of a disagreeable taste; and has great affinity to that of the coldest spring at Cheltenham. Nearly all the above-mentioned shops are filled with the

* So it is in the original. Query, should it not be elms? —TRANS.

elegant Tunbridge-ware, which is a great favourite all over England. In and about the town of Tunbridge, and at Tunbridge Wells, great quantities of pretty articles, such as ladies' work boxes, toys for children, &c., are made of cherry tree wood, or sycamore wood, which from the fine varnish given to them, and the elegant manner in which they are painted, have a very delightful appearance, and cause a great demand for them not only in England, but also in foreign countries. The principal mart for these articles is not far from the Kentish Tavern, where immense quantities of them are heaped up in the shops.

Behind Tunbridge Wells the road becomes again tolerably level. The tolls in this part of the county of Kent are exorbitantly high, and the subject of universal complaint. The town of Tunbridge, five miles from Tunbridge Wells, is an elegant place, containing a number of well built houses. A large brewhouse, which was then building close to the bridge over the Tun, will add to the number of respectable buildings in this place. The bridge itself is very solidly built of stone; but like most of the old bridges in the small towns of England, is too steep of ascent to be convenient. Opposite to the brewery are to be seen the ruins of the old castle.

On the road to Seven Oaks, and not far from Tunbridge, we ascend a pretty steep hill, from which there is an extensive view of the country. From the

want of rising grounds in this vicinity, the eye is less gratified than in most of the prospects in England. Ovington, the splendid seat of the late Earl Stanhope, so well known for his inventive genius, consists of several large buildings, and some smaller ones, which lies in a hollow to the left of the road, and has a very beautiful appearance.

On entering Seven Oaks, we see on the left the splendid villa of Mr. Lambert, which is built of a grayish stone. Close to this place lies Knowle, the celebrated mansion and park of the Duke of Dorset. The entrance to the park is from a side street in the town. We proceed along a broad carriage way, lined with high trees on both sides, through the large and richly planted park to the mansion itself, which being built in the old Gothic style, has a truly venerable appearance, the effect being increased from its being kept in excellent condition. It has two courts, the first of which still remains without any intermixture of modern architecture; but the second, from a portico built before the principal entrance, and from several alterations in the windows, has received a more modern appearance.

In the spacious and lofty baronial hall, which is decorated with glass paintings, there are several good pictures; among them we were particularly pleased with a Moses in the Bullrushes, by Guercino, and a Silenus with *Fauni*, by Rubens (rather a sketch than a finished picture). But the great ornament of

this hall is a beautiful antique statue of Demosthenes, as large as life, found not far from Rome. The orator is represented standing in a tranquil posture, with a scroll in his hand. The drapery is remarkably well executed.* In what is called the Brown Gallery, there are a number of portraits by English masters; and a beautiful oval picture of the Earl of Surrey, by Holbein, must not be passed over. In one of the next rooms we observed a very fine, but unfortunately much injured picture of the return of the Prodigal Son, by Rembrandt. The bedchamber of James I. may be considered as a remarkable specimen of the fondness for show in old times; as all the different articles used in dressing, and even the candelabras, which are a foot in height, are of solid silver.† In the more modern chambers, which are still inhabited by the family, among other paintings, there are the celebrated picture of Ugolino and his Sons in Prison, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; the conception of which does much honour to the artist, although the execution appears somewhat negligent. A Holy Family, painted in lime water colours, by P. Perugino; a small picture, by Garofalo, about

* See Dallaway on Statuary and Sculpture among the Ancients, page 354; and Winkelmann's *Geschichte der Kunst.* New edition, *Th.* VI. p. 225.

† A fire which broke out in this mansion towards the end of the year 1817, had nearly consumed all these curiosities, but the mischief was prevented by timely assistance.

six inches high; two beautiful pictures by Teniers, of an Armoury, and Peasants Dancing; Titian's Wife and his Mistress; and two small pictures by Wouvermann, may be classed among the best of the old paintings contained in these rooms. Copies of Raphael's Cartoons, of equal size with the originals, are hung up in one room. Another contains a collection of portraits of English poets; among which, those of Goldsmith and Johnson, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, are peculiarly remarkable.

We proceeded by Bromley and Lewisham to the metropolis, where we arrived on the 12th of September.

CHAP XII.

Journey to Cambridge—Hoddesdon—View of Cambridge—Trumpington Street—Public Buildings—The Library—Collection of Antiques—Statue of Ceres—Manuscripts and other Curiosities—Earl Fitzwilliam's Collection—The Botanical Garden—The Laboratory—Cabinet of Minerals—St. Mary's Church—The Senate House—Statues in the latter.

After a few days repose at London, I again quitted it on the 10th of October, in compliance with the pressing and repeated invitations of a friend, to visit him at Cambridge, and pass some time there. I took my place in the Union coach, which (like the Fly) sets off to Cambridge every day. It travels indeed rather slower than the other coach, but still at a rate which would leave all similar conveyances in Germany far behind it.

The company I found in the coach, which according to an inscription on the foot-board of the coachman's box, was allowed to carry six inside and twelve outside passengers, consisted principally of students, whose conversation turned chiefly on academical concerns. One subject which more particularly occupied them, was conjecturing who would

be selected to fill the chair of professor of theology, then vacant by the nomination of Dr. Herbert Marsh, well known in Germany as a theologian and professor, to the Bishopric of Llandaff, in South Wales. Some thought one person would be appointed and some another. Another great subject of their discourse was mathematics, and the private lessons they received in that science, which are much studied at the University of Cambridge.

We changed horses at a little town called Hoddesdon, and having to pass a steep hill on our way to Royston, the next station, were obliged to take two additional horses, so that we now proceeded in grand style, with six horses and a postillion. From this height there is an extensive view of the surrounding country, which however is flat, and far from being picturesque. In the neighbourhood of Cambridge it does not improve much, and therefore the sister University of Oxford, which is in a noble situation, and its environs beautiful, leave the less brilliant Cambridge far behind it. The appearance of Cambridge also suffers by none of the public edifices rising above the rest to announce to the traveller at a distance, the splendour which he is to find there; for the long ornamented side front of the chapel of King's College, and the square steeple of the University church, are the only objects which at all rise above the mass of buildings, whilst at Oxford

nearly a dozen spires of steeples and domes, rise like a wood above the rest of the town.

Neither does the entrance into Cambridge tend to weaken the prejudice in favour of Oxford. No High-street, no continued successions of splendid colleges, but merely the comparatively narrow Trumpington-street, with solitary halls and colleges on both sides, offer themselves to the view of the stranger on his entrance. Where however the street terminates in a large square, and we have a view in every direction, and enter several cross streets, the view becomes more pleasing and striking. To the right rises the great and venerable St. Mary's church (the University church), with its beautiful Gothic steeple. Opposite to it there is a large open place, separated from the street by an iron railing, the north side of which forms the magnificent senate-house, the western the extensive buildings of the University Library, and the southern the majestic front of the Gothic chapel of King's College. The colleges now follow in rapid succession. Trinity College, with its noble Gothic entrance; St. John's, with an uninterrupted view through its three courts, occupy the remaining part of the street, the upper part of which is called Trinity-street, from the college of that name, till it reaches St. John's College, where it takes the appellation of St. John's-street, and thence terminates in Bridge-street. Bridge-street (so called from the bridge

over the river Cam, from which the town derives its name), leads to the north end of the town, past the venerable Magdalen College. The ruins of the ancient castle, which was built as early as the reign of William the Conqueror, consist now merely of the remains of its gate, which are to be seen on a small rising ground, whilst the county prison, erected on Howard's plan, at a small distance, seems as if intended in some degree to recall to us the former splendour of the castle. Proceeding along the whole length of Bridge-street, to the south end of the town, we come first to the corner of Jesus-lane, a street which leads to the open country, and ends in the Newmarket road. In this street we meet with Jesus College, Sidney-Sussex, Christ, and Emanuel Colleges, at small distances from each other, and at its southern extremity, lies Downing College. In the neighbourhood of Sidney College, it takes its name, and farther southward, it again exchanges that name, for the appellation of St. Andrew's Street

Connected by a friendship of several years standing, with one of the fellows of Trinity College,* equally estimable as a man, and a scholar; I had an opportunity, during my stay of about three weeks at Cambridge, of becoming pretty accurately acquainted

* My friend Thomas Musgrave, will permit me here to make this public mention of his name, and to take this opportunity of repeating to him my sincere thanks, for all the kind attentions I have received from him.

with all the learned Institutions, and by residing in the college itself, where my friend had given me a room in his house, of obtaining a sufficiently distinct idea of the mode of life of the English students.

The public library, which as above mentioned, occupies the western side of the square, in front of St. Mary's church, is a splendid edifice, with a front of seven windows (five of which give light to a rather projecting part of the building, while the other two at each end, are what are called Venetian arched windows), and it is two stories in height. The lower story projects so as to form an open arcade. A balustrade runs round the roof. The lower story is taken up by what are termed the schools, rooms similar to those already described at Oxford, in which public lectures are delivered in the different sciences. An elegant winding stair leads to the library in the second story. At the foot of this stair, in what is termed the vestibule, but which is, properly speaking, nothing more than a nook beside it, are placed the fragments of ancient art, collected by the learned traveller and professor of mineralogy at Cambridge, Dr. E. D. Clarke, during his travels,* which he presented to the university.† That which from its

* These appeared in the years 1810-1816, in 4 vols. 4to. under the title of Travels in various parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa.

† A minute description of them may be found in Dr. Clarke's book, published in 1809, entitled, " A Description of the

merit, has most claim to attention, is a fragment of a colossal statue of Ceres, found at Eleusis. The account of the discovery, conveyance, and fate of this remarkable fragment, has been very entertainingly related by Dr. Clarke himself.* It is dreadfully mutilated. Nothing can be perceived of the features of the face, the extremities being almost entirely rubbed off; on the left side only, is there any trace of the ornaments; here we recognise a Calathus, which she bears on the head, of excellent workmanship. The upper part of the left arm only remains, the right arm is entirely gone; and the whole statue is altogether a Torso, reaching only below the breast, on which account it is placed on a lofty pedestal.† With all this, we easily perceive that the statue, when uninjured, must have been extremely beautiful, so that it is greatly to be regretted no former traveller had thought of redeeming it. A vein of slate, which runs through the right arm, and appears to have been the cause of its falling off, would have totally destroyed the whole statue, had it remained much longer in the place where it was found by Dr. Clarke. The other more remarkable monuments are:

Greek marbles, brought from the shores of the Euxine, Archipelago, and Mediterranean, and deposited in the vestibule of the University Library Cambridge, 1809, 8vo. with plates.

* Ib. p. 32.

† See the drawing of it, ibid, p. 24. and a restitution according to a plan of Flaxman, p. 32.

a circular tombstone of a Euclides of Hermione in Argolis, with an inscription, and the figure of a dog (the emblem of the subterranean world), which, to judge from the length of it, must originally have been placed beneath the earth (found at Athens); a noble fragment of *verde Antico*, taken from the Temple of Erectheus, at Athens; a large black stone, with a hieroglyphical inscription, found among the ruins of Sais, the pedestal of a statue, according to Clarke's description; a marble theatrical mask, found by R. Walpole, in the ruins of the theatre at Stratonice in Asia Minor, and presented by him to the University, &c.

In the library itself, which consists of one large room, with an adjoining apartment, in which the curiosities, &c. are kept, I found as in most of the public collections of books in England, the catalogue of the Bodleian Library, made use of as the ground work of a similar catalogue, and interleaved for the purpose of introducing additions. The number of the printed books is said to amount to nearly 100,000. Of the manuscripts, the oriental ones, bequeathed to the university by a Mr. Lewis, constitute a considerable part, and as a great rarity, I was shown a manuscript of the Kaswini, with a number of drawings of animals, &c., executed by nations of the east.* Sadi's Works, 3 vol. in folio, from the library of

* The manuscript in the Royal Library at Berlin, is without drawings.

Tippoo Saib, a present from the celebrated theologian and converter of the heathens, the Rev. Claudius Buchanan; and the book of Ezra, written on a goat skin, from the synagogue of the black Jews in the interior of Malayala (?) presented by the same individual; the celebrated Codex of Beza, presented by him to the university, and the History of the Gospels, and Acts of the Apostles, in Greek, with a Latin version, written on parchment, probably of the eighth century,* and a letter on a large sheet, richly ornamented, written by Soliman Aga Schah of Bagdad, to the Marquis of Wellesley, dated 20th of September, 1818, are likewise preserved in this collection of rarities. In a side cabinet, there is a choice collection of old and rare impressions, and *incunabula*, particularly from the presses of the first English printer, Caxton, and our countryman, Faustus. A copy of Gronovius's edition of Seneca, 3 vols. with a number of manuscript annotations, by Richard Bentley, deserved a more minute inspection. Among the curiosities exhibited here, are the plaster impressions taken after death, of Charles XII. of Sweden (with the distinct mark of the ball on the left temple),

* Published by Th. Kipling, as a correct fac-simile of the manuscript, under the title of, Codex Theodori Bezæ Cantabrigensis Evangelia et Apostolorum Acta Complootens, Quadratis Litteris Græco-Latinis. Ed Cantabrig. 1793. 2 vol. fol. Kipling wrote a preface to it, containing the history of the manuscript, and added some notes.

the younger Pitt, Fox, and Percival; that of the latter, by the celebrated sculptor Nollekens. In the lower story, there is a large Chinese picture, several feet in length, painted on paper, representing a Chinese and his family, and likewise a specimen of Chinese stereotyping; the lattter presented by Pallas to Dr. Clarke, and by him to the university, with the other articles before alluded to. A number of sketches for a new and extensive lecture room, which it is intended to erect, are also to be seen in the lower story.

A second public library, has also become lately (1815) the property of the university. It has devolved to it, by a donation from the opulent Earl Fitzwilliam, who gave his collections to the University of Cambridge, consisting of the library, a magnificent cabinet of engravings, and a select collection of pictures, with a considerable sum of money for the augmentation of these treasures. I found the greater part of the books scattered about on the floor of the room, where they are to be arranged, and which formerly was used as a place for a subordinate school. The architect who had been intrusted with the alteration of the room, had executed the commission very successfully. The arched Gothic wooden roof of this room, which is from sixty to seventy feet in length, was very tastefully ornamented with gilt rosettes. Mahogany cases ranged close to each other, occupied the lower part of the

walls, and they were destined for the reception of books, whilst the upper part was covered with a crimson red tapestry, affording the most admirable ground for the pictures, with their rich gilt frames, which are to be hung above the books, but which were not yet unpacked. That there must be some exquisite paintings among them, is evident from a circumstance related to me, viz. that a picture dealer who had previously seen one of the paintings, by Titian, immediately offered 3000 guineas for it. The collection of books, is such as we might look for in the mansion of a rich English nobleman, being peculiarly rich in splendid works, with drawings, both native and foreign, as for example the *Voyages Pittoresques*, the different *Musées*, &c. the whole bound in the most sumptuous manner. Neither is there any deficiency in useful, but less costly works, in the department of history, politics, voyages, and travels, and the whole will without doubt, form a most important addition to the collections of the university.

Among the other general establishments, are the Botanical Garden, the Chymical Laboratory, and the Cabinet of Minerals.

The Botanical Garden lies at the east end of the town, in the neighbourhood of Corpus Christi, or Bennet's College, and contains nearly three English acres. It has a green house of about 100 feet in length, and a small hot house, and it has latterly

been enriched with the plants which Messrs. Clarke and Cripps brought home with them, from their travels through Greece, Turkey, the Crimea, and Russia. The Chymical Laboratory in which the late Mr. Tennant (a man of great talents, whose early death was a heavy loss to science),* gave lectures, which were numerously attended, is a spacious room, furnished with seats, rising amphitheatrically above each other, for the audience; and with every thing necessary for the conducting of experiments. There is here, an apparatus for exhibiting the phenomena of the solar microscope, on a very large scale. In the same room (in which lectures on natural philosophy are also probably given), lectures are delivered on the state of manufactures in England; for this purpose there are several models of machines placed here, some of them very complicated. The cabinet of minerals, which is under the superintendence of Professor Clarke, who delivers lectures on this subject, adjoins the laboratory, and seems to be particularly rich in native articles. The Anatomical Theatre behind Catharine Hall, is said to be very small, but otherwise extremely well fitted up.

* He lost his life by a very melancholy accident. He was in France in the war of 1814, and in company with Bulow, the Prussian General, rode over a decayed bridge in a small town, in one of the northern provinces. Bulow got safe over, but when Tennant attempted to follow, the bridge broke under him, and both rider and horse were buried in the waves.

The large church of St. Mary, and the Senate House, opposite to it, are also destined for the use of the University in common. The former, which was erected in the latter end of the fifteenth and commencement of the sixteenth centuries,* forms, as has been already mentioned, the eastern side of the great square, and is a stately Gothic building. There is a low square tower, with four small octagonal spires at each corner, above the entrance. The interior has been very handsomely decorated in the taste prevalent some years ago. Opposite to the entrance, and at the other end of the church, on a level with the gallery, there is a large seat with a broad ornamented arch over it, occupying the whole breadth of the building, and distinguished by the proud title of *the throne*. It is the place assigned for the professors, office bearers of the university, and the nobility, while the other members of the university, sit in what is called the pit, which is on the floor, and separated by a gallery of wood from the rest of the church. The pulpit, a colossal octagonal wooden elevation, in the centre of the pit, serves not only for Sunday sermons, but for the public lectures, which the Margaret professor of theology, delivers in the church during term time.†

* It was not completely finished until 1608.

† In the university of Cambridge, there are two Professors of Theology, one appointed by the King, and the other under a foundation of Lady Margaret, daughter of

The Senate-House, on the right of the church, is a modern building; but from the taste displayed in its plan, and its appropriate splendour, both external and internal, it is superior to many of the more modern edifices of the same kind in England. It was erected in the year 1730, and forms a front of nine windows, of which, the three in the centre, support a pediment resting on four Corinthian pillars, with astragals, whilst pilasters of the same order are placed between the other windows. A similar pediment adorns the eastern entrance on the narrow side. The house is two stories in height, with a balustrade round the upper story. The interior forms one large hall, of 101 feet in length, 42 feet in width, and 32 feet in height, which has an uncommonly grand appearance, from its size, and from its roof being unsupported by any columns. The whole of the under part is lined with wood as high as the second story, where a gallery runs round the hall, ornamented with pilasters and other architectural decorations; and from the dark colour of the wood, embrowned by time, the whole of this room has rather a sombre appearance. In this lining of wood, opposite to the entrance, a pediment has

Henry VII. The latter is generally called the Margaret Professor of Divinity. Till very lately Mr. Herbert Marsh, recently appointed Bishop of Landaff, a name, to which no German theologian is a stranger, filled the office of Margaret Professor.

been contrived, supported by four Doric columns, before which stands an elevated seat for the chancellor of the university (or in his absence, the vice-chancellor.). Benches for the students run round the walls. The gallery is said to be capable of containing 1000 persons. The roof is in *Cassettoni*, richly ornamented with stucco-work, and the floor laid with white and black marble slabs, forming various figures. On the north side of the hall, and nearly in the middle, stands a marble statue of George I., by Rysbraeck, erected at the expense of Lord Townshend; and opposite to it, one of George II., by Wilton, a present from the Duke of Newcastle, then chancellor of the university. Both the monarchs are represented in the Roman costume, but the statues themselves are nowise distinguished. There are two other statues on the right and left of the eastern entrance. One of these, by Rysbrdeck, representing the Duke of Somerset (formerly chancellor), in the Spanish-Dutch costume, was a present from his daughter, and is very well executed. The other is the statue of the younger Pitt, in the position of an orator, and in his usual dress: undoubtedly one of the best works of Nollekens, an artist of great merit. This statue of Pitt, is in my opinion, unquestionably superior to the one* at Glasgow, already mentioned, executed by Flaxman. It was erected by a subscription of the members of

* See part 1st, page 225.

the university, to which that celebrated man once belonged, and the artist received for it 3000 guineas. The simple word "Pitt," on the pedestal, was the best inscription that could have been selected. In this room all the public business of the university, promotions, &c. take place. I myself saw there the degree of master of arts conferred on a young man. The then vice-chancellor, Doctor Hayes, appeared in his full official dress, with a scarlet cloak, and white band.

In describing the separate colleges, I must begin with the largest and most considerable. This is Trinity College. It is on the same scale with Christ Church College at Oxford, and resembles it in regard to interior arrangements, and particularly in the superb courts, which are enclosed by the buildings belonging to the college. The entrance, which is not dissimilar to that of an ancient castle, and is ornamented with battlements, and four turrets, forms a kind of large tower, of two stories in height, each of which contains a room of two windows. The statue of Henry VIII., who founded this college, stands under a canopy between the windows, and beneath it there is a frieze, richly ornamented with Gothic sculpture. It is impossible to contemplate this entrance without a feeling of veneration, when informed that the rooms above it were for many years the habitation of the immortal Newton, who erected his observatory on the top of the building.* Immediately on entering

* An invitation from the able philologist, Mr. Dobree, well known in England, as one of the publishers of Porson's

the gate we find ourselves in the large square court,* divided by gravel walks into four compartments, that from the green turf, with which they are covered, affords a view as striking as it is agreeable. The north side of the court is occupied by the chapel, with a Gothic portal beside it, having two octagonal towers on each side, and a round tower in the centre. A large clock, and a statue of King Edward VI. beneath it, form the ornament of this portal. The western side contains the residence of the master of the college, the halls, and the combination-room. The southern and eastern sides, which have two stories, and have something of an old fashioned appearance, contain the dwellings of the fellows and students. There is a splendid draw-well, entirely of stone, in the Gothic style, with an extremely rich cupola over it of the date of the building, in the centre of the court.† Passing through a gate, to which we ascend by a stone stair-case, and which separates the hall from the buildings allotted for economical purposes, we come to the second, or Neville's

Adversaria, who now occupies these rooms, allowed me to see that which was once used by Newton as a study.

* The court is 334 feet long, and 287 feet broad, consequently it is not a perfect square.

† See the views of Trinity College in Ackerman's History of Cambridge, London, 1815, large 4to. Vol. II. p. 176. and a view of this court, drawn by R. B. Harraden, and very prettily engraved by Letitia Byrne.

court, which is more regularly built than the former, but not nearly so large.* It derives its name from Thomas Neville, at whose expense the greater part of the surrounding buildings were erected. A beautiful verdant grass plat occupies the court, reaching almost close to the buildings. The eastern side is formed by the hall, which is reached by a magnificent double staircase. The southern and northern sides consist of large buildings of three stories in height, in which the students reside; the library occupies the whole of the western side. A gallery, supported by pillars, and open towards the court, runs round three sides of the square, affording a very pleasant walk in rainy weather, particularly the part under the library, which is admirably adapted for that purpose on account of the splendid appearance it has from the Doric pillars supporting the roof, and its lightness and spaciousness.

The chapel is one of the most beautiful in Cambridge; and the elegant simplicity of its front, which as above-mentioned, faces the first court, forms an additional ornament to that court. It is a lofty Gothic hall, 264 feet in length, and about fifty feet in height, divided into two parts by the organ. In the part nearest the entrance stands the statue of Sir Isaac Newton, by Roubiliac, within an iron railing, generally reckoned the masterpiece of that artist. The philosopher is represented standing in a thought-

* 228 feet by 148.

ful attitude, with a prism in his hand, and a light drapery thrown round him, the folds of which are executed in an admirable manner. The face is most strikingly expressive, and the whole statue is in every respect in high perfection. Near to it repose the ashes of the great philologist, Porson. The organ, one of the best in this part of England, rests on a wooden structure, ornamented with columns, through which we enter into the choir. To the right and left of the entrance are the elevated seats of the master and vice-master, and over the former the name of Bentley may yet be read. The name of Newton also still remains above his seat. The altar-piece by West, representing St. Michael conquering the Devil, has become so very dingy, that the objects represented are now scarcely distinguishable. On the left of the altar, and close to it, a stone with a simple inscription, covers the ashes of Richard Bentley. In this beautiful building the music is heard to great advantage; and the Sunday evening service, during which the whole chapel, especially the amphitheatrical seats for the students round the walls, are brilliantly lighted with wax tapers, and when all the members of the college appear in their white surplices, is one of the most striking and dignified spectacles, that I ever remember to have seen.

The hall, or dining-room, is the largest in Cam-

bridge.* The roof may be considered as one of the most admirable specimens of old wood-work which remain of the time when it was executed (the middle of the sixteenth century). The whole of the upper space is formed from the point of the roof to the commencement of the slope, entirely of beams joined together in the most skilful and artificial manner, and very richly ornamented.† The walls are wainscotted with oak up to the windows, which are at a tolerable height; and two large bow windows project on each side of the building, not far from the north end, by which the room receives sufficient light. The intervals between the windows are hung with portraits as large as life, of the celebrated men who have been members of this college; among which we remarked those of Newton, Bentley, the poets Cowley and Dryden, John Ray the botanist, and the lexicographer Spelman. The combination-room,‡ a hall built only a few years since, is uncommonly pleasant, and is adorned with several portraits of English nobles, among which is that of the present chancellor of the University, the Duke of Gloucester, a full length figure by Opie.

* It is more than 100 feet long, forty feet wide, and about fifty feet high.

† See the beautiful view, in the before mentioned work of Ackermann, page 180.

‡ At Oxford called the *common room*, where the members of the college take their wine after dinner.

The library, built according to a plan of Sir Christopher Wren, is an edifice two stories in height. The lower story is occupied by the walk above-mentioned, and the books are in the upper story. This library-room is not less than 200 feet in length, forty feet in breadth, nearly the same number of feet in height, and is lighted by twenty-two windows (eleven on each side). The staircase, of black marble, is at the north end of the room. At the foot of it there are several curious remains of antiquity, in a place not altogether well adapted for inspection, nor sufficiently lighted. Among these remains are the second Sigean inscription,* a present from Mr. Wortley Montague, son of the celebrated traveller; it is fixed in the wall, under his marble bust; also a long Greek inscription, yet unedited, on a yellowish stone, said to be in honour of the Athenian musicians, and presented to the university by Mr. Hawkins, so well known on account of his collection of bronzes; a Roman milliarium, presented by Richard Gough, the antiquary, whose collections, as already mentioned in the account of Oxford, are in the Bodleian library; several Roman inscriptions, altars, &c., found in England, and collected by Sir Robert Cotton.†

* The first and most celebrated is well known to belong now to the Elgin Collection in the British Museum.

† I have a separate engraving of these which was given to me as a present.

The view of the library-room is very striking, particularly from the clear light it receives from the double row of windows. The book-cases, as in almost all large libraries in England, project from the walls into the room, leaving only sufficient space between them in the middle for a walk. The number of volumes may probably amount to between 30 and 40,000; the collection seems however to be richer in ancient than in modern works.

Among the curiosities which are preserved in two locked divisions of these cases, we must in the first place mention the invaluable and most complete collection of writings for the History of the Age and Life of Shakspeare, as also of Shakspeare's own productions, bequeathed as a legacy to the university by Edward Capell,* well known as an editor and commentator of the immortal poet. It consists not merely of a series of the editions of Shakspeare's works (containing Capell's own very neat transcript of the works of the poet, in several quarto volumes, which probably served as the groundwork of his edition), but also of a collection in several hundred large volumes of contemporary plays; editions of single plays of Shakspeare, &c., in all sizes, of which Capell himself drew up a particular catalogue, attached to the collection. The other rarities are several manuscripts of Milton, particularly of his

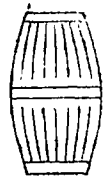
* Also for his excellent notes and various readings to Shakspeare. London, 1785, 3 vol. 4to.

Comus, a masque; his Arcades, with a great number of emendations, but all in a very legible hand; the plan of the British Troy, an epic poem, which, if I am not mistaken, was to have embraced a considerable portion of English history. The first plan of his Paradise Lost, in which the subject is treated in a dramatic form, and in which shape he seems to have continued it to a considerable length; also one of his poems, composed after his blindness, and written to his dictation by his daughter; several of Newton's letters and additions to his works; letters from learned persons to Smith, the optician; and among others one from Voltaire; Bentley's manuscripts, chiefly relating however to the New Testament, some editions of which, with notes in his own hand writing, are in the collection; a book of observations by him on various subjects; copies of some inscriptions which he found at Rome, and of which, as he there informs us, nothing is to be found, either in Reinesius, or in any other collection; Pauw's edition of Hæphestion, with notes by Bentley. Among the other manuscripts I was struck with a part of the Iliad, with the commentary of Philoponus, of the twelfth century; and the original of the Lexicon of Photius, twice transcribed by Porson (his first copy having been burnt), but which for calligraphic beauty, is far inferior to the copy;*

* This is in Mr. Dobree's possession, and he had the goodness to let me see it.

several books not yet published, as for instance the correspondence of the Cardinals Borgia and York, chiefly carried on with Sir John Cox Hippesley, a member of parliament still living; a Memoir on the Government of James II., by Viscount Lonsdale; an account of the Origin and Progress of the Rocket System, by its inventor, Colonel Congreve; the Speech of Don A. J. Ruiz de Padron, deputy from the Canary Islands, to the Cortes, and a speech of the well known Minister Jovellanos, printed on board the ship Caledonia, in the Mediterranean sea, and presented to this library by Sir Sydney Smith, &c., &c.

Among the works of art and antiquities found here, may be included the original of the Marmor Sandvicense, a present from the discoverer, the Earl of Sandwich; a small marble statue of Esculapius, found at Samæ, not far from Rome, a present from Sir Charles Wintringham; a brick from the ruins of Babylon, of the following very peculiar form:



The lines which run from top to bottom are all inscriptions in a small character, which, from its wedge-like shape, is called *scriptura cuneata*. It was

a present from Sir John Malcolm, author of the History of Persia, who resided a long time in that country, as British ambassador to the Court of Persia, and while there, carried on very interesting researches.

Three large doors on the ground-floor, open towards the river Cam, over which there is here a handsome stone bridge of three elliptic arches. The opposite bank of the river affords an excellent walk for the admirers of nature, beneath an umbrageous avenue of chesnut and lime trees, which runs parallel with the river, and from which several side-walks branch off towards the east. The view over the meadow to the buildings south of Trinity College, is particularly attractive. We here perceive the simple and agreeable structure of Clare Hall to the left; in the centre, the majestic chapel of King's College, towering high above all the other buildings; and to the right the superb modern edifice of King's College, resembling a palace, with the river, bordered with beautiful birch trees, in front. All these objects form together a picture the equal of which we shall in vain seek at Oxford.* Trinity College boasts upon the whole, the greatest number of fellows and students. Of the former it has sixty, and four conducts; and sixty nine scholars; and in the whole (in

* Extremely well represented in a view given in one of the large University Calendars, for 1807, drawn by Baldrey and engraved by Sparrow.

the year 1814) 876 persons belonged to this college, all under one master, the Bishop of Bristol.

St. John's College, which is next to Trinity, on the north, has three courts, but they are of less extent than those of the neighbouring foundation. They are surrounded by dwelling-houses, in the style of the sixteeth century, at which period they were built, and are remarkable for their singular windows, consisting of three arches close to each other. The entrance from the street into the first court, like that of Trinity, is ornamented with four octagonal turrets, between which an observatory has been erected. The hall is more simple than that of Trinity College, but is tolerably spacious. The library is said to be considerable; a part of it was a present from the poet Prior, who belonged to this college. The walks and gardens of St. John's, which we reach by a second elegant bridge of three arches, over the river Cam, are particularly beautiful. The garden, exclusively appropriated to the use of the fellows, in which I had the pleasure of walking with several of them (and in particular with the polished and well-informed son of Herschel), is in plan very much like our large gardens in Germany. Clare Hall, situated near to Trinity College on the south, is strikingly favoured in point of situation beyond all the other colleges of Cambridge, although in point of extent, it is more limited than many of the others. It has only one court, round which all

the buildings lie. On the right, are the chapel, the hall, and the library; on the left, the apartments of the fellows; and in the western, or newly-built wing, are the master's chambers, which to judge from the outside, must be very elegantly fitted up, and from which there must be a charming view over the river to the meadows and the walks.

The chapel is a narrow room, of an oblong square form, with a high vaulted roof; the floor is laid with black and white marble-slabs, and is extremely neat and pleasant; but it has no organ. The smaller division of the chapel, into which we enter from the west, and which is of an octagonal form, lighted by a glass cupola, prepares us very agreeably for the delightful impression produced by the larger compartment. The altar-piece in the latter, by Cipriani, is very feeble and ineffective. The hall is extremely simple, nay almost too destitute of ornament; but the beautifully-furnished combination-room, makes amends for this. In this room there are some excellent portraits, among which is that of the celebrated preacher, Tillotson. The beautiful proportions of this room, and the fine taste displayed in its decorations, contribute to render it one of the most splendid in the university.

King's College, from a building belonging to it, namely, its chapel, asserts a pre-eminence over all the other colleges. The college itself, a modern structure of three stories in height, with its front towards the

meadows, is not remarkable for any thing but its extent and regularity. But nothing can be more noble and surprising than the majestic chapel, that first and incomparable monument of Gothic architecture, that work of works. After a lapse of centuries, it still appears as if it had but lately issued from the hands of the architect; seeming to challenge all the successors of its creator to produce any thing equal to it and imperishable like itself!

The entrance into this noble building is so surprising that for sometime we are lost in the contemplation of it. Imagine only a hall about 300 feet in length, and 45 feet in breadth, which, unsupported by any pillars, bears, at the height of 80 feet, a roof ornamented with the richest Gothic fan-work, in which the eye can find no spot, not calculated to excite admiration of the art of the carver, from whose chisel this immortal work proceeded.* Delicate stripes of stone-work run from the bend of the arch to the centre of the roof, where being crossed by others in different directions, they meet with those of the opposite bend, and this junction is marked by a central

* The great architect to whom London owes St. Paul's church, Sir Christopher Wren, used to visit Cambridge every year for the purpose of viewing this chapel and its roof; and once asserted, that if any one would only show him where the first stone was laid, he would undertake to build a similar roof.

spiggot-shaped piece of exquisite workmanship, gradually diminishing in diameter as it descends. Every where there are ornaments, every where art and taste—no where any thing that reminds us of its being of perishable nature, but all appearing durable and elevated above the influence of time. The roof itself is double, there being above the stone roof a second one of rafters, on which the external covering rests; and there is sufficient room between the rafters and the vaulted roof for a man to stand upright. The very walls, especially the west end, are adorned from top to bottom, with excellent carved work, in which the roses of the houses of York and Lancaster, recur in every variety of union. The organ stands on the screen, about the middle of the chapel. Here also there is a profusion of stone carvings. The interior of this chapel was just finished when Henry VIII. was married to the unfortunate Anne Boleyn, and when his love for her was in all its fervour. True lovers' knots, therefore, surround the arch in the screen, which forms the entrance to the chapel, properly so called; and on a table close to the wall on the right side, may be seen the arms of the King united with those of Anne. The organ is good, although not to be compared with that of Trinity College. I heard Te Deum sung in the chapel, on a Sunday, accompanied by the organ; but the instrument did not, even with all the registers, appear to me sufficiently powerful for the immense space it

had to fill. The seats for the members of the college, as in other chapels, run along both sides of the walls of the choir. The floor is laid with black and white marble slabs, forming various figures. The altar-piece, representing the descent from the cross, a present from the Earl of Carlisle, who once belonged to this college, is a good Italian copy of the celebrated painting in *fresco*, by Daniel da Volterra.

The chief splendour of this wonderful edifice, after its architecture, consists in its noble paintings on glass, with which its windows are completely filled from top to bottom, with the exception of the large west window, which has been purposely left unpainted, to admit sufficient light into the church, an object that has been fully attained notwithstanding the great extent of the space. The other twenty-five windows, are each nearly fifty feet in height, and these are again divided by thin stone divisions into five compartments, each of which is again separated in the same manner into two equal halves. The colours still retain a wonderful freshness, and we cannot sufficiently admire how little, upon the whole, these paintings have suffered from the hand of time. The upper part of the window contains the subjects usually selected from the Old Testament, and the lower from the New.* The large eastern window demands a particular study; its

* See a more extensive description in the New Cambridge Guide, for 1815, p. 36.

upper and lower divisions are separated by pillars into three compartments, which again are separated into three smaller divisions, containing a connected group. The whole forms one picture (the Crucifixion); which for drawing, arrangement, and execution, leaves every thing of the kind in other English churches very far behind.*

Even the exterior of the church is richly ornamented, particularly the western entrance, which it would seem is opened only on solemn occasions; the usual entrance being through a door on the north side. The view of the whole length of the church from the western entrance, must indeed be indescribably grand.† The royal arms project over the point of the arch of the entrance-gate; on each side we see the roses of the two contending houses; and next to these, on both sides of the door, statues must formerly have stood, as we may surmise from the empty niches with canopies over them. The octagonal towers at the extreme ends of the west front, contain the stairs which lead to the roof.

It cannot be denied, that when viewed at a distance, and between the edifices of King's College and Clare Hall, this chapel appears uncommonly narrow in proportion to its height. We must, how-

* In the public library of the university there is a large coloured engraving of this window.

† See the engravings from a drawing from this point of view, by F. Mackenzie, an artist of genius, in Ackerman's Cambridge, Part I. p. 198.

ever, consider, that without pillars it was impossible any considerable increase of span could with propriety have been given to the arch of the roof; and besides, this impression is lost when we have a near view of the edifice. Its long sides, with the parapets elaborately broken through at the base of the roof, and the high jagged points in which the buttresses between the windows terminate, rising to the height of several feet above the battlements, have an excellent effect, either when seen at a distance or near at hand.

The new edifice, the college itself, is one of the most beautiful and elegant specimens of modern architecture in Cambridge. It has a striking front of sixteen windows and three stories, of which the lowest is in the rustic style. The great entrance door in the centre, is ornamented with a pediment, supported by two Doric columns. Opposite to this entrance there is a stone bridge of two arches over the Cam, between which and the college a large and beautiful lawn spreads itself. The view of the colleges of Clare Hall and King's College, two beautiful and regular edifices, forming large masses with the narrow and high chapel of King's College between them, is indisputably the finest in Cambridge.* The college consists of a provost, and seventy fellows and scholars.

* Remarkably well given in a view drawn by Baldrey, and engraved by Sparrow, which was published at Cambridge.

Emanuel college, quite a modern building, has a very splendid appearance when viewed from the street. The central building has two stories, eleven windows, a pediment supported by Ionic columns above the centre, and at the ends, a corner building of three windows, and the same number of stories; the whole forming a facade of no less than seventeen windows. A handsome iron railing upon a stone wall, surrounds the court in front. The inner-court is environed by buildings on all sides. The side opposite to the entrance, is in part occupied by the chapel, which, like the front of the college, is ornamented with a pediment, supported by four columns, in the centre of which there is a clock. A little turret rises above the top. Open halls, through which there is an agreeable view of the college garden, occupy the lower space on both sides of the chapel. The altar-piece, by Amiconi, the Return of the Prodigal Son, is not much distinguished. A large and beautiful organ stands opposite to the altar.

Richard Farmer, author of an able essay on the learning of Shakespeare, which is well known in Germany, was once at the head of this college. Bloomfield too (a brother of the editor of Æschylus), who had extended his philosophical acquirements by a tour of several years through Italy, France, and Germany, and who, after his return to his native country, was carried off by death in the flower of his youth, only a few days before my ar-

rival at Cambridge, belonged to this college.* Emanuel College consists of a master, fifteen fellows, and fifty scholars.

Sidney-Sussex-College is a building of rather an old-fashioned appearance. It has two courts and two gardens belonging to it. The garden for the students, as well as the private one for the fellows, are laid out with great taste, and are kept in very good order.

One of the most remarkable members of this college, was the usurper, Oliver Cromwell. We are still shown the room he occupied, which is situated in the building in the first court. I saw his portrait† in the master's apartments, it is drawn in chalk by Samuel Cooper, a contemporary artist, and executed with great care; it is usually considered the best portrait of the Protector. It has been copied frequently, and I was informed that the great collector of pictures, the Marquis of Stafford, offered the college no less than 10,000 guineas for the original. A master and twelve fellows belong to this foundation.

* His translation of Matthiæ's Greek Grammar, with many additions, the appearance of which has been long expected, will, it is hoped, soon see the light. (It has since been published).

† It is a head and upper part of the body without hands. The dress is the usual Spanish-German of that day, with the large white band then common.

Jesus College is particularly favoured from its situation, at the east end of the town, being in the centre of what is called the Jesus-close, a large meadow planted all round with trees. We proceed from Jesus-lane between garden walls, extending to the large Gothic gate of the first court, which on three sides is surrounded with buildings in the Gothic style, of three stories in height; but on the fourth side, is open, and separated from the meadows by an iron-railing, through which there is a beautiful view of the surrounding country. The second, and smaller court, is surrounded on all sides by buildings. Here stands the chapel, with a short square tower, surrounded with battlements, by which the college is distinguished at a distance. The west end of the chapel is built in the Norman-Saxon style, with small windows following close on each other, in front of which run galleries supported by slender Saxon pillars; which are also to be found in the choir. The altar-piece by Jouvenet, representing the Offering in the Temple, is insignificant. The hall is tolerably spacious, and built in the modern taste. A small flight of stone steps leads to the door. Three pictures of Members of the College, among which that of Archbishop Cranmer (a copy by Sir Joshua Reynolds from an older picture), adorn the wall opposite to the entrance. The persons belonging to this foundation, are the master, sixteen fellows, and forty-one scholars.

Christ College has only one court; but a splendid

front towards the street, in the centre of which there is a gate between two octagonal towers. The garden of the college is particularly remarkable from its containing a large old mulberry-tree, which, according to tradition, was planted by the hands of the immortal Milton, who belonged to this college. It still continues fresh, and seems to to owe much of its health to the care and attention bestowed on it; for I found its trunk covered with lead, to preserve it from the effects of the weather. Milton's bust is not far from it, on the edge of a small basin.

Magdalen College, at the northernmost end of the town, the only college situated on the other side of the river has two courts, both of which are entirely surrounded with buildings. In the first are the hall, the chapel, and the master's residence; in the second the lodgings of the fellows, and the *Bibliotheca Pepysiana*. This library, a gift of Samuel Pepys, Secretary to the Admiralty, in the reign of Charles II., is arranged in a building three stories in height, opposite to the entrance of the court.* An open arched way runs before the lower story, and under the middle windows of the second is the inscription, *Bibliotheca Pepysiana*, in large letters. Unfortunately the fellow of the college, who has the charge of the library had not returned from an excursion that he

* Above this, in raised work, are the arms of the Audley family, to which the second founder of this college belonged, with the motto, "*Garde ta foi.*"

had been taking during the holidays, and as no other person had access to it, I was under the necessity of contenting myself with an outside view. To the treasures of this library belong the celebrated collection of old English ballads, in five folio volumes, consisting of 2000, commenced by the famous antiquary Selden, and continued by Pepys down to the year 1700; and the collection of ballads in two folio volumes, called the Maitland Collection, which is said to be considerably superior to the Bannatyne Collection already mentioned in the account of the Advocate's Library, at Edinburgh.* Bishop Percy, the editor of the work, so much esteemed by all lovers of old English poetry, called Relicks of Ancient English Poetry, borrowed largely from the first collection; and his successor Pinkerton, took almost the whole of his from the second.

Pembroke Hall, at the south end of Trumpington-street, and one of the minor colleges, has two courts, which are entirely in the old Gothic taste. The chapel however is executed after a design by Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of St. Paul's Cathedral at London. It is a long edifice, of a temple-like form, the eastern and more narrow front of which ornamented with columns towards the street, is quite in the modern style. The library contains a number of old theological books, but nothing remarkable. A

* See Vol. I. p. 171.

large hollow celestial globe of eighteen feet, into which we entered by steps, and which can be turned round by means of a windlass, is shown in a separate building, erected purposely for it. The inventor and maker of this instrument, was Dr. Roger Long, a mathematician who belonged to the college. The stars, as in modern, though less colossal instruments of this kind, are represented by holes, through which the light enters. The poets, Spenser, Mason, and Gray, belonged to this college, as did also England's celebrated statesman, the younger Pitt, whose chamber is still shown with great veneration.

St. Peter's College, directly opposite to Pembroke Hall, has also, as usual, two courts, which are separated from each other by a gallery resting on a lofty open arcade. It joins on both sides the front of the chapel, which is towards the court, while the back part is towards the street. The interior of the chapel, though plain, is uncommonly neat, and the eastern window above the altar; opposite to the entrance, is completely filled with a beautiful painting on glass, representing the Crucifixion, partly taken from Rubens. The organ is one of the best in Cambridge, but like many others in England is without a pedal.

Downing College, the most modern of these establishments, immediately betrays by its exterior the date of its origin. The building was commenced in the year

1807, according to a design by William Wilkins,* an architect who belonged to Caius College, but is not yet nearly completed. All that yet exists of it is the half of the eastern wing; that is to form one of the sides of the large square, of which the college is to consist. This eastern wing will, where it approaches the southern, constitute a building by itself, ornamented with two porticos, one towards the south and opening to the meadows; and the other to the west; fronting the court; both of which are already finished. The columns, which are of the Ionic order with astragals, are of Portland stone, of which indeed the whole edifice is to consist, and have a very agreeable appearance. The building is of two stories in height, the lower story with large windows, the upper with small square windows. The view of it gains very much from its being situated in the centre of a large meadow, called St. Thomas's Leys; and consequently the point of view can be chosen from a considerable distance.† The founder of this college,

* Well known in Germany as an inquirer into antiquity possessing of great taste, by his splendid work Antiquities of Magna Græcia, London, 1807, in folio; his Translation of Vitruvius, enriched with a number of notes, London, 1813—1817, 2 vol. 4to., and his last published work, entitled Atheniensia, or Contributions towards the Topography of Athens.

† See the view of the Colleges, drawn by H. A. Barker, and engraved by S. Sparrow, in one of the large open Almanacks of the University.

Sir George Downing, as early as the year 1717, had directed by will, that in case of the extinction of his line his estate should devolve to the University of Cambridge, for the foundation of a new college, but on account of law-suits, this did not take place till the year 1800, founded also two new professorships for jurisprudence and medicine, of which the former is now filled by the barrister, Mr. Christian, well known as the editor of Blackstone. Besides these professors, the foundation supports sixteen fellows, two chaplains, and six scholars.

Among the remarkable objects of the town of Cambridge, exclusive of the castle and prison, which have been already alluded to, may be reckoned a very singular remnant of the earliest Saxon architecture, namely, the church of St. Sepulchre. It stands on the eastern side of Bridge-street, directly opposite to the end of St. John-street, and is surrounded on all sides by houses, so that a very small space is left open around it. Like the church of the Inner Temple at London, commonly called the Temple, it is quite round, and flat above, with battlements like a castellated tower.* It is three stories high, the lower of which projects considerably, and the roof is sharp. The two doors opposite to each other, have the round

* There are only four of these round churches in England; viz. that at Cambridge, the Temple at London; the church of St. Sepulchre, at Northampton; and the church of Little Maplestead, in Essex.

arches and indented ornaments, peculiar to the Saxon style. The interior, with respect to style, corresponds perfectly with the exterior. Thick colossal pillars, connected by clumsy arches, support the upper part of the church. In the second story, which is separated from the lower by an ornamented ledge, there are small circular blind arches all around, whilst the third, evidently of more modern date, has the usual Gothic windows.* The interior of the church is filled with seats, as divine service is still performed in it.

Addenbrooke's Hospital, a large edifice of three stories in height, at the south end of Trumpington-street, where the London-road enters the town, though only built of brick, appears to great advantage, with its spacious ground in front, planted with trees, and surrounded by an elegant iron railing. Its founder, John Addenbrooke, a physician, and fellow of Catherine Hall, died in 1719.

The environs of Cambridge are but little distinguished for picturesque beauty. The only walk for the inhabitants, excepting the walks on the west side of the river, opposite to the colleges, is that to Barnwell, a little village in a very pleasant situation, about half a mile from the town.

Near to this place is the new theatre; a building

* See the views of its interior and exterior, in Ackerman's Cambridge, vol. 2, page 316, and in the Ancient Reliques, Vol. 1. D.

of a very pretty exterior, which although small, is said to be very convenient and elegantly fitted up within. The Norwich theatrical company perform in it during the University holidays. There is a fine view of Cambridge from the Maid's Causeway, a road between it and Barnwell, which is kept in excellent order, and which has turnpike gates at both ends.

The vicinity of Newmarket, distant only fourteen miles from Cambridge, and the circumstance of the great autumnal races taking place just at the time of my stay at the University,* induced me to make an excursion thither, for which I was favoured by a fine day. The road runs through Bodsom and some other villages, and is not very attractive, and the country, which is flat, like the environs of Cambridge, appeared still more disagreeable to the eye from the fields being covered with blackened half rotten corn, partly still lying on the ground, and partly standing in sheaves,† a most melancholy picture. When we are still several miles from Newmarket, we perceive single houses of two stories high, with stables, which mark where the races take place, and in which various preliminary matters having reference to the sport are settled.

Newmarket itself is a small place, of about 2000

* There are races twice a year at Newmarket, in April and October.

† Observe this was on the 16th of October!

inhabitants, having only one considerable street, into which we enter immediately from the high road, and which runs the whole length of the town. Its situation in a circular valley, enclosed by hills on all sides, prevents its being perceived till we are close to it, when we are very agreeably surprised by the neat appearance of the houses, some of which to the right, and on the hill, are of tolerable height, and have ascents in front in the German manner.

After alighting at the inn, I immediately crossed over to the opposite coffee-house, which is the general rendezvous for all those who take any part in the races. The town appeared uncommonly animated. Trains of horses were led up and down the streets. Excellent equipages, gigs (two wheeled carriages with one horse), curricles (two wheeled carriages with two horses, tandems (the same vehicle with two horses, one before the other), flew past us and past each other, with the swiftness of an arrow. Horses were prancing about with their riders; jockeys were carrying saddles and bridles to and fro; in short, all was full of life and bustle. The coffee-house a pretty building, a little behind the line of houses in the street, and has the space in front which is separated from the street by an iron railing. The bustle of the betters forms an amusing scene in this place. The principal apartment is a large room, with boxes or wooden partitions fixed against the walls, as in all English coffee-houses. Newspapers, journals, and other

means of entertainment are plentifully provided; and wherever we cast our eyes we see advertisements of sales of horses, descriptions of others offered for sale, &c., and the name of Tattersall, the famous London horse dealer, appears every where very conspicuous.

I had arrived at Newmarket at half past one o'clock, and was informed at the inn, that one race was already over.* However I learnt afterwards at the spot that my loss was not great, as one of the two parties had withdrawn, and paid the forfeit of two hundred guineas! About two o'clock, when the second race was to commence, the bustle was redoubled. Horsemen and carriages, with pedestrians innumerable, all strove for precedency, so that the whole road was covered with an uninterrupted and motley crowd of spectators. The place where the races are held was at no great distance from the town, so that we soon reached it. A house of two stories, called in the technical language the stand, similar to those already alluded to, marked the termination of the course; and its upper story was soon filled with a number of elegantly dressed ladies, desirous of seeing the races from the windows. Near to this, stand the stables for the temporary accommodation of the race horses, and beside it is the weighing house, where both jockeys and saddles are weighed. An immense pair of scales, not unlike

* The races generally commence at this hour.

those used for weighing hay, was fixed to the roof in the centre of the weighing room. The jockey seats himself astride in the one scale, and the weights are placed on the other, by which it is ascertained whether he is of the prescribed number of pounds. A similar process takes place as soon as the jockeys have finished the race, and have alighted from their horses; both in the case of the winners and losers,* whence all, as soon as they have arrived at the goal, must ride immediately to the weighing house, where their weight is again entered in the books as before.

The course is distinguished by nothing but the turf with which it is covered, whence it is for the sake of brevity called *the turf*. Near the end of it, opposite to the house for the spectators, runs a small enclosure of posts, connected with each other by ropes, extending as far as the little house, called the judge's box. This little house, which is of wood, and not unlike a centry box, moves on rollers, and can by the aid of a shaft fixed to it be drawn any where. As soon as the ground for the race is marked out it is shoved forward to the great post standing at the end of the course and on which the judge,† standing

* For the purpose of being certain that neither of them has thrown away any thing during the race in order to lighten his weight.

† This is usually an old experienced groom or horse breaker, on whom this office is bestowed as a comfortable provision.

on an elevation, lays his eye to ascertain precisely which horse has first reached the goal. His sentence determines the gain or loss, and he immediately enters it in a little book which he carries with him. The next station in point of importance is the betting post, a stake near to the goal, and the house for the spectators, round which the amateurs who are mostly on horseback, assemble and commence their bettings on the success of this or that horse which is to run. Assembled in a circle round this post, they stand closely wedged together, and nothing is to be heard but the continual cry of twenty, thirty, forty, two hundred pounds, on such or such a horse, against such or such; whilst some of these gentlemen enter the bets made in their pocket books. The money is paid in the coffee-house immediately on returning into the town after the races are over. In the mean time the races have commenced perhaps at the distance of a mile or two from the betting-post, whilst the bettings still go on and the gentlemen of the turf do not discontinue them until they see the advancing horses. At this moment every person who had till then been on the race-course, leaves it; the whippers, who are grooms armed with large hunting-whips, continually walk about it, and by smacking their whips, keep the course clear; every one retiring on the other side of the posts, or boundaries, to see the horses arrive. At length they come hurrying in, whipped and spurred by their riders to the utmost speed,

and in a moment fly past the spectators, and even past the judge's goal without stopping, to the weighing-house.* As soon as they have passed the judge, he pronounces his sentence aloud; the multitude curious and eager in the utmost degree, crowd round, all inquiring who has won. Soon after this the second race begins. The judge's box is drawn further on to the next race-ground; it is followed by the crowd, and the same scene is renewed. The race-ground is changed every time (this was the case at the races where I was present), and the distances were so considerable, that in the last I found myself full four miles from Newmarket. There were persons continually running amongst the crowd, offering for sale, accounts of the races. These notices consist of two papers, 1st, a folio sheet, with the day and hour of the races, the names of the horses, their age, weight, measure, names of their owners, and pedigree, and their price (in case the runners have engaged to sell them, if they should prove the winners), and all the conditions connected with the races, and necessary to be observed; and 2d, an octavo sheet, in which, for every day, are recorded the names of the owners, their horses, and the jockeys' dresses, so that as soon as one of them appears to have got the start, it can be immediately known who is the pro-

* The most considerable races usually continue from four to six days.

bable winner. Both of these are published daily, and form in some degree the chronicle of the races.

The first race that I saw, was what is called a sweepstakes, that is, when only two, three, or at most four horses, run against each other, and one is acknowledged the winner. It was won by a very swift racer called Nadeide, the property of a Mr. Boyce, whose jockey wore a yellow silken jacket.* Immediately after this race, the scene was changed, and the judge's box rolled along. The second ground I have already observed was at a greater distance from the town than the former, and the stand, which bore the name of the Duke's stand, was an elegant building, with a gallery surrounding the upper story, from which the ladies were spectators of the scene. This race, another sweepstakes, but of less importance than the first, was run by four horses, of which, that last named in the list, a young horse, of only two years of age, belonging to a Mr. Wyndham, bore away the prize. Now came the fourth, and most important race of the day, which was to be held still further from the town, in the vicinity of a ditch, now dry, called Devil's Ditch, which formerly in all proba-

* The dress of the jockeys consisting of a jacket, leather breeches, top boots, and a velvet cap on the head, is well known; but these jackets are of various colours, and have sometimes sleeves of a colour different from that of the body. All these particulars are carefully mentioned in the smaller list.

ability, if we may judge from the high earthen mound beside it, belonged to an ancient fortification. This mound was soon occupied to a great distance, by persons looking down on the level where the race was to take place, and of itself afforded a very peculiar spectacle. Every thing announced that this was the principal occurrence of the day, but more especially the bustle in the vicinity of the betting post, where, as I perceived from the incessant rises in the bet, very considerable sums were staked upon the event. These were customary stakes (on several horses), and, probably in honour of the Duke of York (who was also present), called the Oatland stakes, after his seat of Oatlands. Six horses ran on this occasion, two of which belonged to the Dukes of Rutland and Grafton, but four of them were so far distanced, that the judge took no further notice of them.* The two swiftest, gave way so little to each other, that they reached the winning post in one and the same moment, and the judge declared the heat to be a *dead heat*, so that to decide the matter, these two horses were obliged to run again. They were the most beautiful creatures that could possibly be seen, delicate in shape, fiery, flexible, in short, a pair of perfect racers. It was a difficult matter for any one to decide which was likely to be the winner, although most voices were for the Duke of Rutland's Fandango, who again entered the lists

* Or in the technical phrase "the judge placed but two."

with his antagonist Scrapeall, belonging to Mr. Batson. The care with which these two noble steeds were prepared for the new contest surpasses description, and can only be compared to the ardour with which they themselves seemed to be animated, for it was easy to see how much they burnt with impatience again to measure their speed with each other.*

The jockeys and saddles were again weighed, and every thing prepared for the renewal of the combat. At length the race began, and the bettings continued long after it was commenced (chiefly on Fandango against Scrapeall.) Meanwhile the horses came nearer, both bleeding, from the violent spurring of the jockeys. They flew past us, as if borne on the wings of the wind, and in a moment, the voice of the judge was heard, declaring that Scrapeall had won the heat, but as was immediately known, only by a head. The whole crowd now mixed together, every one spoke of the decision as a matter of the highest consequence, and several who had betted on Fandango, gave vent to expressions of suppressed indignation, for as was generally said, large sums had been betted on him, and lost.

* Whoever would wish to form an idea of the care bestowed in the training of race horses, should read the first part of the Memoirs of Thomas Holcroft, well known for his comedies, who in the earlier part of his life was a jockey at Newmarket.

The races were now ended for the day, and the motley crowds returned to the town. Horsemen and pedestrians all hastened to Newmarket, to recruit themselves after the fatigues of the day, and the whole plain, from the race ground to the town, resembled a carpet covered with moveable figures. Among the gentlemen, I was shown the Dukes of York and Rutland, who were returning together, the former mounted on a noble gray horse; and among the ladies (a great number of whom witnessed the scene), I particularly noticed two, one of whom very dexterously drove a curricle, drawn by two fiery brown horses through the crowd, and the other mounted on a gray horse, moved about in all directions.

In the mean time it had begun to grow dark, and it therefore became necessary for us to think of returning to Cambridge. After taking a frugal meal (at five o'clock), I therefore again took the road, and by seven o'clock found myself in Cambridge, where I arrived in time to take my supper in the combination room, and to pass the last hours of my stay at the university, in the agreeable society of my friends of Trinity College, whom I shall never cease fondly to remember.

On the 17th of October I left Cambridge in the Fly, a light stage coach, which returns to London by a different road from that taken by the Union coach. This road, which runs rather more to

the westward, passes through a far more agreeable tract of country. By this route we passed, among others, Lord Besborough's seat, a large palace-like mansion, built in the Gothic style, and very picturesquely situated on a hill. It has a noble lawn in front, and it is reflected in a lake, between the house and the road.

Hockerill, an agreeable little place, has a large and splendid inn, very attractive from its neatness. Horses are changed, both here, and at Epping-place. Behind Epping-place, we have always in view Epping Forest, a great heath, celebrated on account of the autumnal hunting parties of the London citizens, on which many jokes have been passed. The surrounding country is extremely well cultivated, and country seats of all possible descriptions follow each other in quick succession. By Woodford, we came to Hackney, and at half past five o'clock, we were again in London.

CHAP. XIII.

Departure from London—Chelmsford—Colchester—Harwich—Mr. William Bull—Mr. Billingsley—The Fort—Departure for Cuxhaven.

On the 29th of October I left London, to proceed by the usual road through Chelmsford and Colchester to Harwich, there to embark for the continent. In the first mentioned place, I was particularly struck by the stately prison, built on Howard's plan, which was distinguished by its exterior beyond all the other houses in this pretty little town. At Colchester (famous throughout all England for its excellent oysters) I met with a very good reception at Mr. Darton's Hotel, where on the preceding night, the Prince Regent had slept, on his way to the Marquis of Hertford's country seat.

About nine o'clock in the morning of the 30th of October, I arrived at Harwich, and immediately repaired to the inn kept by Mr. William Bull, which is as excellent for the entertainment it affords, as its arrangements. He received me with the same kindness with which he had welcomed me on my first arrival on English ground; in him, immediately on our entrance into England, we saw the true model

of an English landlord, and a real gentleman. The Prussian consul, Mr. Billingsley, who also fills the office of inspector of foreigners, likewise showed me the same kind attention I had formerly experienced from him.'

A young officer of the Ismailow guard, belonging to the head quarters of Count Woronzow, who had come over from Maubeuge, and been a month in England, travelled with me in the stage coach, from London to Harwich, and messed with me. In his company, whilst waiting for the departure of the packet boat, I strolled about the neighbourhood. With the exception of the view of the sea, it is very unpicturesque, and the town itself, although very clean, is small and insignificant. The wooden barracks for the troops, in the vicinity of the town, are extensive, and capable of containing a tolerably large garrison.

There is a circular fort on a hill, not far from the town, mounted with ten iron eighteen-pounders, on carriages of a very peculiar construction, like those which I saw at Dumbarton, already mentioned.* They form ordinary frames with rollers under them, which run on a circular iron course fixed in the ground, so that the guns can be turned round about and in all directions. It may easily be conceived, that this contrivance is only applicable to artillery on walls. The whole fort is bomb proof, and beneath the guns, casemates have been formed for the garrison, running

* See Vol. I. p. 219.

deep into the earth, and leaving an open circular place in the centre. The whole is surrounded by a deep ditch, over which a draw bridge is thrown, and in time of war, it must be a good defence to the town.*

The packet boat, which was to have sailed on the 30th,† could not quit the harbour that day, on account of contrary winds, which was announced to us in the evening. We were obliged to prepare for setting off so much the earlier next morning. We went on board the Auckland at seven o'clock exactly, which was to convey us over to Germany. About eight o'clock we sailed out of the harbour; and favoured by an uninterrupted fresh westerly breeze, and the swiftness of the vessel, we arrived safe at Cuxhaven, on the 3d of November, 1816, after a passage of sixty hours.

* We find several of these circular forts at different parts of the English coast, as Dover, Southampton, &c.

† On Wednesday. It sails twice a week for the continent, namely Wednesdays and Sundays.

END.

J. D. Dewick, Printer, 46, Barbican.

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